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# SACRAMENTO COUNTY CALIFORNIA



STATE CAPITOL AT SACRAMENTO



PROSPEROUS STOCK AND ALFALFA FARM IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY

SACRAMENTO  
C O U N T Y  
IN THE HEART OF  
CALIFORNIA

*By* EMMETT PHILLIPS

ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF  
SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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TYPICAL MODERN OFFICE BUILDING, CITY OF SACRAMENTO.

## INTRODUCTORY

**S**ACRAMENTO COUNTY is one of the very richest political subdivisions in the State of California and its population and industrial importance have augmented greatly in the past several years. The demand for information regarding Sacramento County from all parts of the United States has made it necessary to present this compilation under direction of the Board of Supervisors. The information given in this publication has been carefully prepared and deals in a specific way with all industries of importance in Sacramento County, which is always spoken of as the "heart of California." This is due to its central location in the State and also to the fact that it represents more nearly than any other county in California the wonderful variety of soil products that has made this State famous throughout the world.

In telling of the marvelous progress that has been made in the various industries of this county care has been taken not to indulge in exaggeration in the slightest degree. The truth sounds strange in itself in this regard and its coloring would be as inappropriate as the "gilding of refined gold." Sacramento County's greatest asset is her balmy climate, which affords a long growing season and comfortable living conditions that must be experienced to be fully appreciated. It is but fair to state that California would not be any different from any other fertile State in so far as farming goes were it not for its wonderfully even climate. It is the mild temperature in all seasons that makes this a country in which success and happiness are acquired with the expenditure of less energy than in other States where the fierce heat of Summer and the chill blasts of Winter add materially to the burdens of life.

### Some Crop Marketed Every Month.

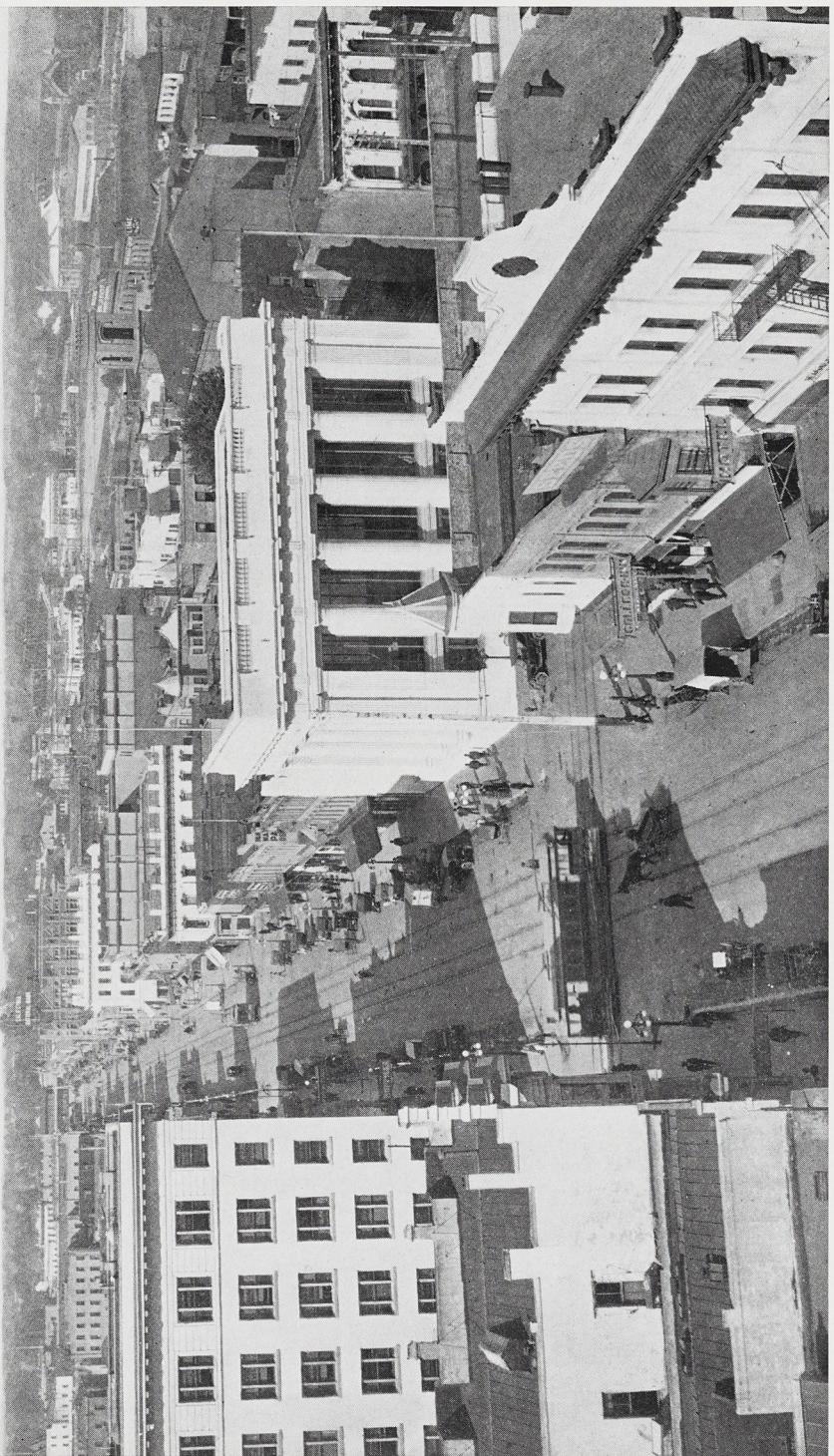
In Sacramento County every month of the year is a harvest month. Some soil product that finds a ready and eager market is cropped every month of the year. Berries are in the market from May to the latter days of December and it is during the period of gentle Winter sunshine that the orange groves of Sacramento County are divested of their luscious golden fruit.

The farming lands of Sacramento County are very productive and especially the many thousands of acres bordering on the banks of the Sacramento River and its several tributaries that course through the county. These farms are referred to as bottom land and here are grown the many varieties of deciduous fruits that find ready sale in the several provinces of Canada, the United States and Northern Europe. It is on the bottom land farms where alfalfa is grown in great abundance. This nutritious fodder is cut five and six times each year and averages from eight to ten tons per acre. No irrigation is required on river bottom soil, where cultivation is an easy task. Alfalfa requires no re-seeding but by a natural process rehabilitates the soil and grows year after year with remarkable strength and richness.

All citrus products grown on the higher lands of Sacramento County are of standard quality and of the best marketable varieties. Oranges, lemons and pomeloes (grape fruit) ripen here from four to six weeks earlier than in the southern counties of the State. This gives the citrus fruit growers of Sacramento County a decided advantage because of the early demand in eager markets at the top prices. Early maturing of oranges in Sacramento is due to its inland position being removed from the seacoast about 75 miles in an air line. The ocean fogs never reach Sacramento County nor interfere with the ripening process of citrus products.

(Photo by McCurry)

J STREET, A COMMERCIAL THOROUGHFARE OF SACRAMENTO CITY.



### **Small Farms Yield Big Returns.**

It should be understood by the reader that a farm in Sacramento County of much smaller proportions than the average Eastern farm, is capable of far greater production, and the man who owns a twenty-acre subdivision here has a far better asset because of its yielding capacity than a farm of five times its area in the Eastern States where climatic extremes greatly limit cultivation and production.

During the past ten years many of the large land holdings have been subdivided into small farms and intensive cultivation has been pursued with splendid success. Sacramento County has more than 3000 individual farms and they are prosperous and profitable. Reclamation undertakings are progressing rapidly and many thousands of acres of overflowed land are being conditioned for intensive cultivation. In another paragraph in the pages of this publication will be given a description of the magnitude of several of these projects.

One of the most notable land subdivisions that has added many small farms to the list in Sacramento County in recent years was that of the Rancho del Paso, which was an immense holding of 44,000 acres lying immediately north of the city of Sacramento and bordering on the American River. This great property was an old Spanish grant, remaining as a single holding until title was passed from its recent owner, J. B. Haggin, to a syndicate of Eastern capitalists, who sold it in small allotments to settlers, many of whom came from the Eastern States. Although it is but a few years since the Rancho del Paso was the largest thoroughbred horse breeding farm in the world, its great expanse is now dotted with attractive homes and hundreds of contented families are prosperous and happy in subdivisions that were formerly a vast pasture area.

### **Amazing Increase in County's Wealth.**

The wealth of Sacramento County is increasing amazingly, as is indicated by the following statement taken from the records of the County Assessor. In 1910 the total assessed valuation of property in the county was \$58,620,075. The total assessed valuation of property for 1913 was \$91,000,049. This wonderful gain in values is due to the tremendous industrial development in all lines of endeavor and it is not unwise to estimate that the gain in material wealth will be in far greater proportion by the close of 1915, when much of the commerce of the world will be directed through the Panama Canal, thereby adding greatly to the population and development of all California and the Pacific Coast States.

While it must be apparent to the reader that there has been marked activity in the industrial life of Sacramento County and consequent rise in property values, it should be thoroughly understood that there has been no boom here and all values are based upon actual worth. Land in Sacramento County is valued on a basis of what it will produce and the collective interests of Sacramento County will never acquiesce in the establishment of false or inflated values.

The citizens of Sacramento County are desirous of having ambitious and energetic men and women of other States build their homes here and join with them in the glorious work of developing the almost unlimited resources of this rich section. An invitation to come to Sacramento County is herewith cordially extended to the people of other States and assurance is given that success will follow intelligent and persistent effort in greater measure than is attained in other places.

Communications addressed to the Board of Supervisors of Sacramento County will receive prompt and careful attention and citizens who elect to come to Sacramento County will be given a hearty welcome and every assistance to help them to success and prosperity.



BEAUTIFUL FLORAL CLUSTER, STATE CAPITOL IN THE BACKGROUND.

## SACRAMENTO COUNTY

*Its Area, Topographical Character, and Roads*



N area Sacramento County is nearly as large as the State of Rhode Island, covering an expanse of 988 square miles. Nearly all the land contained in this area is productive but considerable of it is not under cultivation because of the need of increased population. The total population of Sacramento County is about 90,000, but it is increasing very rapidly and it is quite probable that there will be twice that number by the time the next Federal census is taken. The topography of the county is quite advantageous for intensive farming. Most of the land is level, rising gently eastward from the Sacramento River at a level of 35 feet above the sea to the rolling foothills of the majestic Sierra Nevada Mountains to a height at its boundary line of about 600 feet above sea level.

Nearly all of the rich land in the county bordering on the Sacramento and American Rivers is under reclamation. Thousands of acres of the higher lands are irrigated and are planted to nearly every variety of deciduous and citrus fruits. The general surface conditions of Sacramento County make road building easy and less expensive than in many other counties of California.

There is an excellent system of oiled roads throughout the county and experts have pronounced them equal to the best in America. In the general system of State Highways that are now being constructed under direction of the State Engineering Department of California, Sacramento will be a converging point. In other words, all roads from all parts of the State will lead into Sacramento, the capital of California. It is expected that the State Highway system will be completed by January 1st, 1915. The total amount of money



ANNUAL STATE FAIR MEETING AT SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA.  
(Photo by McCurry)

to be expended for trunk lines and laterals to the several county seats will be \$18,000,000. The bonds were approved by the people of the State three years ago and much of the work has already been done.

#### **Modern Highway System.**

The era of good modern road construction in Sacramento County began about five years ago when the automobile passed the stage of experiment and became an indispensable factor in our social and commercial affairs. Following the building of substantial highways on scientific lines, rapid development of farms resulted and it is now the intention of the people to expend \$3,000,000 more for road building, which will place Sacramento County in the front rank with the most advanced political subdivisions in America in this regard.

The generally level condition of the county and very gradual slope of the foothills render motoring most practical and delightful. Most of the farmers use motor cars for business and pleasure.

The general slope from the upland or foothills makes irrigation a very simple proposition and there is never a dearth of water for this purpose. Aside from the water supply afforded by the rivers that course through the county there is an inexhaustible subterranean supply of water which can be tapped at small distance from the surface in nearly all parts of the county. At this writing there are many individual irrigation systems in various sections of the county where the supply of water is taken from wells. Electric energy is cheap and available in all parts of Sacramento County. Nearly all the farms utilize electricity for lighting and power. There is no part of this ultra rich section that is not easily accessible and in every part of the county there is electric energy, transportation, good roads and telephone service. Were it possible to consult with Divine Providence in the matter of reconstructing the topography of Sacramento County no material suggestions for improvement could be offered by those who are living in prosperity and happiness within its borders.



TWO OF THE LARGEST FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY.  
(Photos by McCurry)

# CITY MEN ON THE FARM

*Their Splendid Success in  
Sacramento County*

**S**OME of the most successful farmers of Sacramento County are men who live in the city and own and successfully operate farm properties in various sections in the county. Much has been published about the varying success of city men on the farm in the great magazines of the country and the impression given is that success attends only where the farmer actually resides on his farm. This is not true of farming in Sacramento County, as there are numerous instances where business men with offices in the city of Sacramento conduct farm properties and are successful in their several enterprises to a marked degree. Several notable instances of successful city men farmers are given herewith, as it will prove interesting to the reader who may be skeptical on the subject.

**A. B. Lemmon Jr.** is a young man who is employed in the office of the State Controller in the Capitol at Sacramento. Several years ago Mr. Lemmon purchased five acres of land in Fair Oaks, which is one of the rich upland sections of the county. It is also one of the most picturesque farming districts of the county. Mr. Lemmon has some deciduous fruit and orange trees on his farm but most of his energies are devoted to raising poultry. He rides in an automobile to and from business in Sacramento City every day and devotes his spare time to his farm. He employs one man on the farm all the year round at a salary of \$40 per month. In speaking of his farm products, Mr. Lemmon says: "The average annual net income from my five acres since I have been on them is about \$1,500. The chickens pay the biggest dividends. I also sell fruit. Last year I got \$100 for the crop from an acre of olives and \$700 for the oranges grown on three acres. Some growers did even better. Both olives and oranges do exceedingly well here. None of the growers suffered any injury in the Winter of 1912 from the severe cold spell that did so much harm in Southern California. There is a large acreage here planted to both olives and oranges, and new groves are constantly being set out.

"From the profits of my five-acre tract last year I purchased an additional five acres. This was unimproved and I have planted about four acres to olives and an acre to alfalfa. The alfalfa will furnish sufficient feed for both my cow and my horse for about nine months of the year. While the young olive trees are growing I have planted Egyptian corn and sunflowers between the rows. These will furnish me with an abundance of feed for my chickens and keep down the cost of production of my eggs.

## Economy in Transportation.

"For the first four years that I was on the farm I traveled back and forth to Sacramento in a railway motor car. Last Winter, however, I invested some of my surplus in an automobile. This has been a very good investment for me, and is rapidly paying for itself. Every morning when I come to the city, I take two cases of eggs with me, one on each running board. I deliver them to dealers and get the empty cases on my return. This saves 70 cents a day in expressage, besides getting the eggs to the dealer several hours in advance of the time he would have gotten them if I had to depend upon the express system. It also saves me the worry of getting back the empty cases.

"Besides this, I have two passengers that I take to Sacramento and return each day, and when the high school is in session I have three passengers a day. I land them in the city earlier than the first train. The fare paid me by these passengers more than pays for the gasoline consumed and the upkeep of the machine and at the same time I accommodate them.

OLIVES FROM THIS GROVE SOLD IN 1913 FOR \$200 A TON.



"Good roads and the automobile make it possible for the city man to conduct a small farm and at the same time continue his work in town. It is just about a half hour's run from my farm to my employment. For the most part the road is an excellent macadam driveway. The ride is invigorating and pleasant at all times. Probably nowhere in the United States has the good roads movement, which means the building up of the country, taken deeper root than in the Sacramento Valley. The State is expending \$18,000,000 on highways and many counties are spending large sums in addition. The boulevard over which I drive to Sacramento every day is a link of the proposed transcontinental highway from New York to San Francisco, which is to be completed by 1915. Good roads and automobiles give those who reside in the country all the advantages of city folks in addition to the unsurpassed pleasures of the country."

**Senator P. C. Cohn** furnishes another instance of the successful city business man on the farm. Mr. Cohn owns an orange and olive grove in Orangevale, which is situated about 20 miles from the city of Sacramento. He conducts a business in the city and employs experienced men to operate his farm. Senator Cohn has the following to say of his experience as a city man on the farm:

"I have owned my orange grove in Orangevale Colony, in Sacramento County, for about ten years. There has never been a year, since the trees have been mature, that they have not paid a profit. In 1913 they paid as high as \$120 an acre net, but this year I think that record will be broken. That is an excellent profit, when it is taken into consideration that I attend to my business in the city all the time and have all the work upon the place done by hired help. I employ one man the year round. His salary varies according to the amount of work to be done and also as to whether or not he has to use his team in caring for my place. The average price paid him for the year round, however, is about \$85 a month, which also includes all team hire. During the picking and packing season, I employ a large force to properly handle the crop.

"I think my place and the ease with which I have it farmed fully demonstrate how a city man can succeed on a farm in Sacramento County. Any man, no matter what his previous experience has been, can make good growing oranges, provided he uses the business judgment necessary to succeed in any venture. No one should hesitate in starting such a venture because of lack of previous experience. It requires some capital, however, to grow oranges. Good orange land costs from \$200 to \$300 an acre; it costs about as much as the original price of the land to bring a young grove into bearing. But when you have a bearing orange grove, you have a property that is worth something. I value my orange grove at \$1000 an acre. It pays interest on a greater valuation than that.

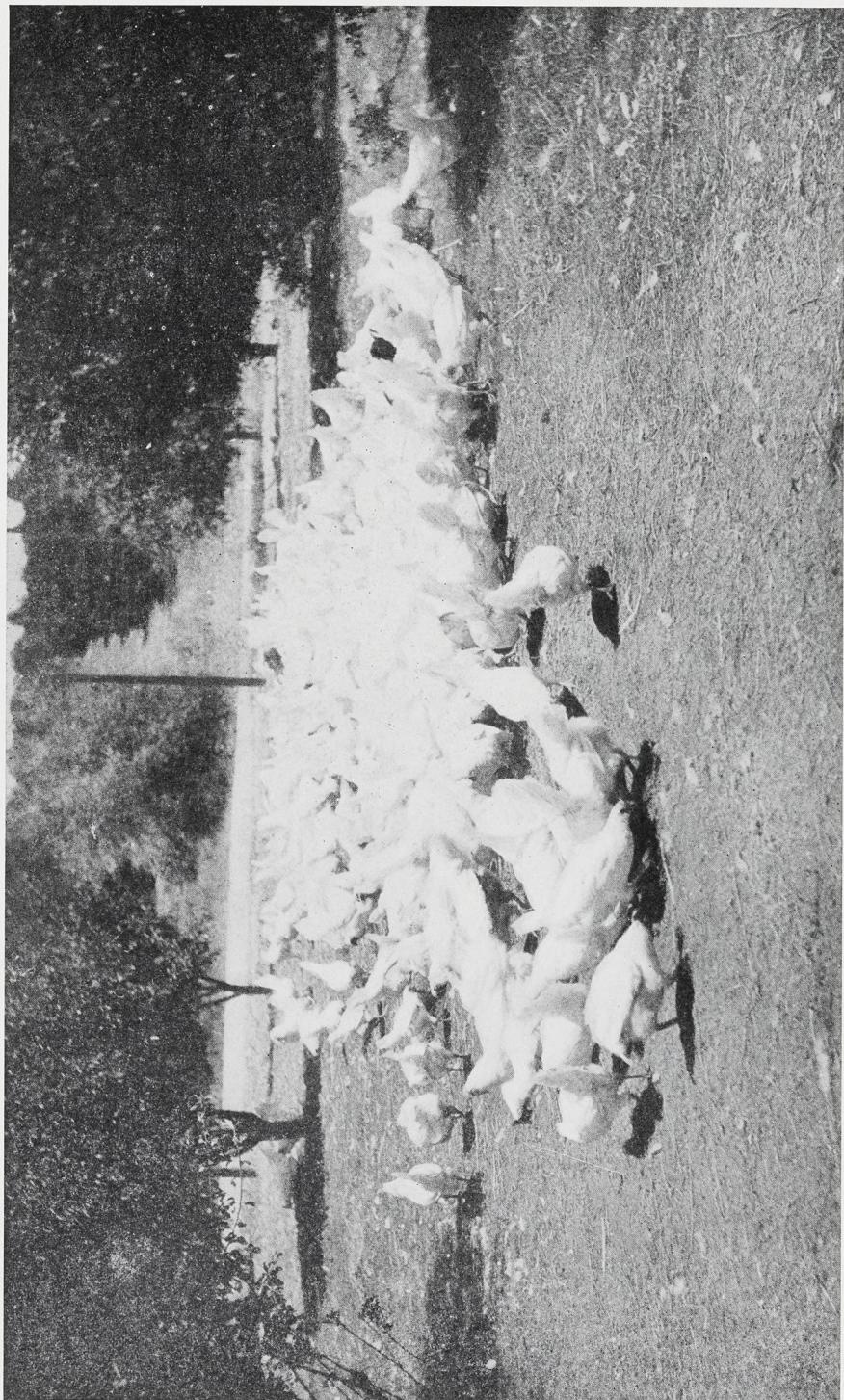
#### Center of Orange Culture.

"I think eventually that the Sacramento Valley will be the orange growing center of the State. Every county in the valley has lands that are suited to the culture of citrus fruits. Thousands of young trees have been planted during the past two years and more will be planted during the coming Fall and Winter months. The fact that our oranges ripen early and are several weeks ahead of the citrus fruits of every other section of the world makes it easy for the growers to market them.

"Olives are equally as profitable in Sacramento County as oranges. I have not yet started picking olives on my place but will do so during the latter part of the month (November). I have not yet sold the crop, though I have had several good offers. I have been offered \$125 a ton for the olives on the trees, the buyers to do all the picking and transporting. I have also been offered \$175 a ton for picked olives.

"My prune and grape tracts have also been profitable to me, though not as big money makers as the oranges and olives. The prices for both prunes and

TYPICAL POULTRY FARM, WHITE LEGHORN HENS, SACRAMENTO COUNTY.



grapes were very satisfactory to the growers and the shippers this year.

"The success that I have had with my farm demonstrates how easy it is to succeed on the soil in Sacramento County, provided the land owner farms intelligently. And the man who attends to his own land can make even greater profits. He can save the cost of the man that I hire the year round and by giving his trees his personal attention all the time can get better results than I can by having the work done by hire. Furthermore, he can devote a small piece of ground to a vegetable patch and by having a cow and a few chickens, can supply a very large percentage of the food for his family."

**Mr. Morris Brooke**, who is engaged in a commercial enterprise in Sacramento City, gives an interesting account of the success that has attended the efforts of himself and wife on a ten-acre farm situated about five miles from the city.

"We purchased our ten-acre farm in November, 1910. It was too late in the season to do anything in the agricultural way, excepting to plant some Winter vegetables, such as peas, lettuce, turnips, radishes and onions. I spaded up a small patch of ground myself mornings and evenings, sowed the seed, and by the holiday season we had fresh vegetables of such varieties as we had planted for the table.

"After the Winter rains were over, we plowed the entire ten acres, procured the services of a good farm hand and four good farm horses. The land was plowed and considerable grading and leveling was done with the four horses and a Fresno scraper. This put the land in first-class shape for irrigating. Past experience has taught me that a few dollars' more expense on the land in the first place will save you many dollars in the future in labor and insure uniformity of growth, for unless land is level, it cannot be irrigated uniformly.

"We plowed the land two or three times, harrowed it and pulverized it, and then to be sure it was plowed enough we plowed it once more and harrowed it two or three times. This took until April 20th. In the meantime, of course, we had purchased our deciduous trees to the number of 310. We have cherries, peaches, plums, prunes, apricots, apples, pears, persimmons, figs, etc., and we have a variety of each. For example, we have the earliest cherries and the latest cherries, we have ten different varieties of peaches. In addition to the deciduous trees, we have 500 grape vines, including 18 standard varieties. We have 120 navel orange trees, 10 lemon trees, 2 grape fruit trees, 2 Japanese kid-glove oranges, 10 Franquette walnut trees, 50 ornamental trees and 30 date palms. Every one of these trees were planted by myself to insure proper planting, although the holes were dug by our two hired men. I believe in digging large holes and each hole was  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet in diameter by at least 2 feet deep. When filling in these holes, I first had spaded down the edge of the hole, then the top dirt was thrown in, so that the subsoil or that which was taken out of the bottom, remained on top. When the deciduous trees were planted, two large buckets of water were thrown around each tree, and they were pretty well trimmed back owing to the lateness of the season in which they were planted, as properly speaking, they should have been in the ground at least two or three months earlier. Several so-called experts told me that I would not raise one of these trees, but I only lost five, which is less than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. It was a magnificent showing.

#### Success in Garden Truck.

"After the trees and grape vines were planted, then began the planting of the garden truck; corn, pumpkins, potatoes, etc. I planted four rows of yellow field corn between each row of deciduous trees, and I planted two hills of pumpkins between each row of trees, and frequently planted the pumpkins in the corn rows, so that in some portions of my orchard, it is almost one solid mass of pumpkin vines. At the present time we have perhaps four acres grow-

(Photo by McCurry)

BEAUTIFUL RURAL HOME OF SENATOR MARSHALL DIGGS, SACRAMENTO COUNTY.



ing to corn and pumpkins between the trees, which is an accurate showing of what intensive cultivation can accomplish. It is the finest corn to be seen anywhere, at the same time there is as fine a showing of pumpkins as can be seen anywhere, yet the young trees are not being hampered in their growth apparently at all.

"My wife wanted plenty of sunflower seeds for the chickens, but I did not want to give up any of the land to the growing of sunflowers, consequently, she planted her sunflower seed around the fences of three sides of our farm, with the result that we will probably have a couple of tons of sunflower seed for the chickens.

"We have about one acre planted to different varieties of berries. We have the Jessie, Dollar and Patagonia strawberries. We have dewberries, early Crandall blackberries, the Lawton blackberries, the Himalaya giant blackberries, the Mammoth blackberries, loganberries and three different varieties of raspberries. We have one row of corn growing between each row of berries, and each is growing perfectly oblivious to the other's presence. Our strawberries are sending out runners and making new vines, so that the bed will be almost a mass of berry vines.

"Through the kindness of the Chico Experimental Farm, we received a sample of rice seed, which we had planted into beds 20x40 feet in size. We followed the directions of the Government Experimental farm in the planting of this rice, and were soon rewarded by its coming up, and it is making a magnificent growth.

"We also requested of the Agricultural Department of Washington some cotton seed. This was planted according to direction and a Southern cotton grower told me that he had never seen any finer cotton plants in his life. He said that in his country it would be called a 'two bale' crop. Of course I do not know whether that is a good crop or not, but from the way he spoke about it, I judged that it was.

#### Planted Date Palms.

"I have long entertained the idea that the date palm would grow from the seed in this country, as the transplanted palm does so well, so I sent to the Stanford University campus and had one of the students gather me about 100,000 seeds. These I planted, and at the present time I have from 60,000 to 75,000 young palm trees coming on. These will be given to my neighbors, when they reach the transplanting stage, providing they will properly take care of them.

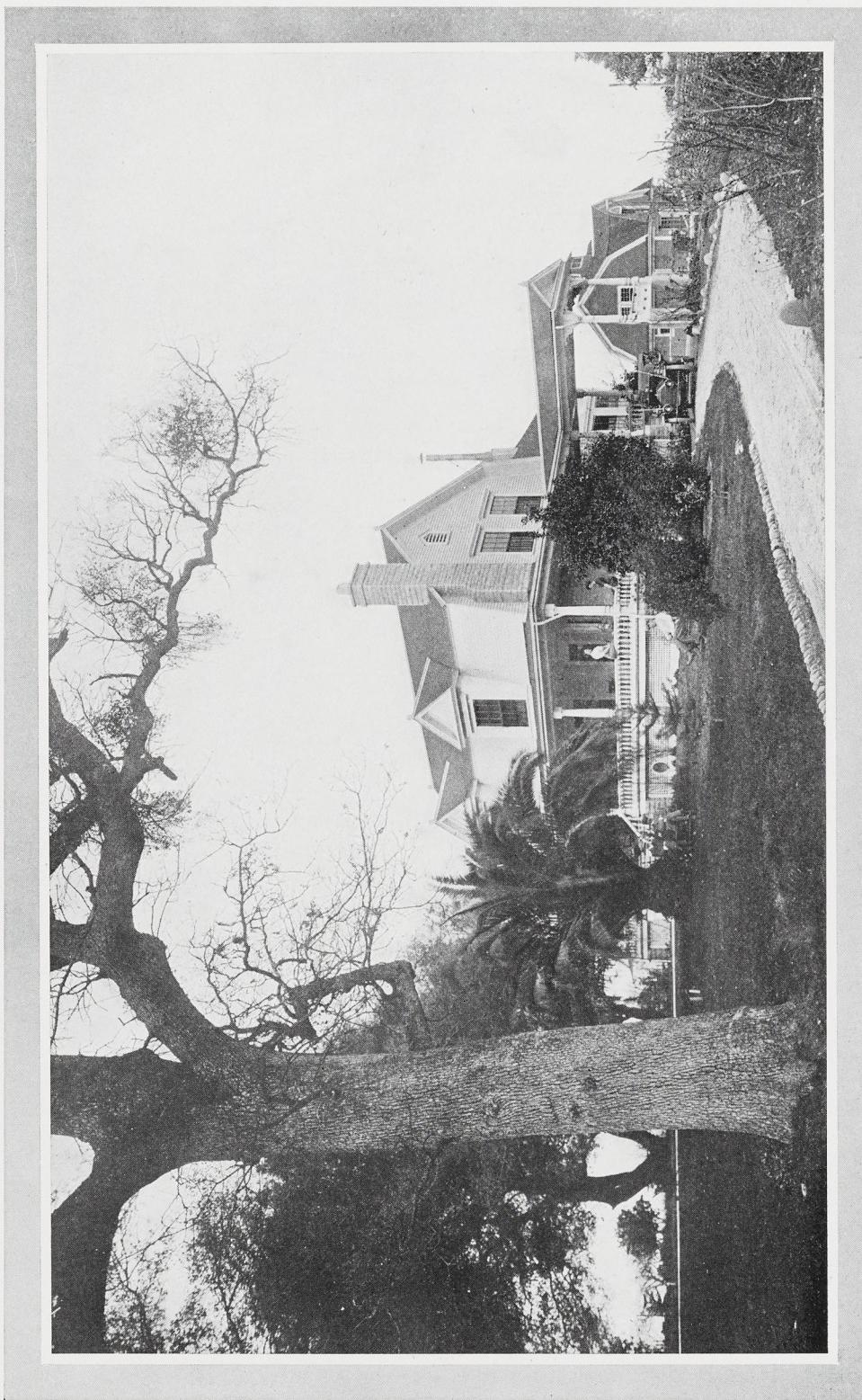
"I planted about one-half acre to two different varieties of stock beets, and from the way they are growing, and the way I keep thinning them out all the time, I think we will have in the neighborhood of 15 tons of beets on this one-half acre.

"We had more early beans than we could consume at home and give away to our friends, and my wife conceived the idea of selling them to the grocer. The first grain sack full we brought in, brought us \$7.50. That looked good to us and we went back and had the hired man gather another sack full that brought us \$6, and so on until we sold enough beans that month to pay our grocery bill for ourselves, our two hired men and the cook, to say nothing of considerable company.

"I discovered a new kind of early sweet corn and planted 4 or 5 rows, 100 feet long, and forty-five days from the time the seed was put in the ground, we were eating corn off our own garden and we have been eating on this corn now for the last three weeks. In the meantime we have another kind of corn coming on. Of course, we have always made it a practice to plant beans in the same way, so that there is no intermission between the early beans and the Summer beans.

"Our cucumber patch has been doing wonders. I don't know how many

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE AND ORCHARD HOME OF HARRY THORP, SACRAMENTO COUNTY. (Photo by McCurry)



boxes full we have picked from a small patch to date, but we have had a great many more than we could use, and could have sold quite a number had we had the time to bother with them.

"About two acres of the ten acres are planted in alfalfa. We are cutting on this alfalfa continuously and feeding it green to the chickens by running it through a fine cutting machine. We will probably raise from eight to ten tons of hay for our cow, chickens and pigs this Winter, besides feeding two or three wheelbarrow loads to the hogs each day.

#### **Profits in Hogs and Poultry.**

"Now, as to livestock. We have 26 hogs running in a pen detached from our own home, and for the past two months they have been fed entirely on weeds, corn suckers and other stuff from our own farm which otherwise would go to waste. Our cow is fed entirely on the thinning of the corn and corn suckers.

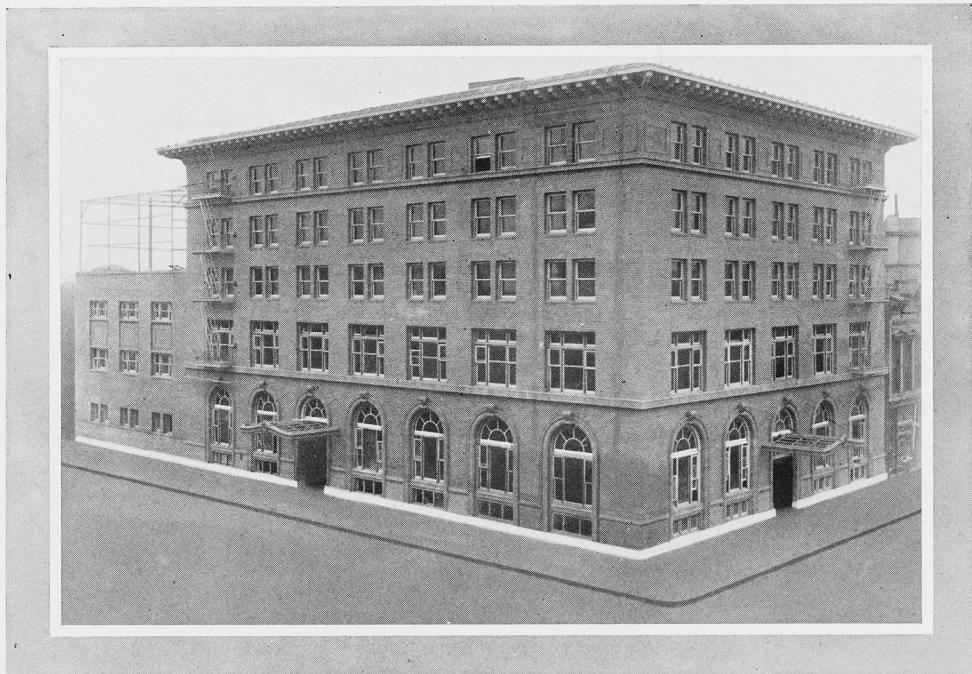
"We have 200 very fine white leghorn pullets coming on which we are crowding so that they will begin to lay in September, when they will be six months old. Several of our hens, although less than five months old, have begun to lay. The secret of making hens lay in the Fall and Winter is feeding them all the green stuff they can eat during the months of July, August and September. Besides the green alfalfa, they are fed three times a day. We have a patch of rape growing in the chicken yard. This they pick on all day long.

"Of course it is necessary to irrigate. I had a well bored 110 feet deep and the water stands 12 feet from the surface at the present time. This well cost us \$30.00. I installed a pumping plant consisting of a No. 3 centrifugal pump, costing \$60, and a six-horsepower gas engine costing \$210. The setting of the gas engine and pump cost an additional \$10, so the whole plant represents an investment of about \$300. This plant is much larger than what I really need, as it will irrigate the entire place thoroughly in three or four days' time and then it is laying idle until we want to irrigate again. I figure that the plant would easily take care of 30 or 40 acres by running it constantly.

#### **Advise Intensive Farming.**

"Looking down the rows of corn from six to ten feet high that was planted on May 22, you will see an average of almost two big ears on each stalk and from ten to twenty pumpkins on every pumpkin hill; you see the berries making the magnificent growth that they are; the dark, rich green of the alfalfa, the healthy tomato vines already laying flat on the ground from their load of green tomatoes; the immense potato vines, each hill averaging almost a bushel of potatoes; the sweet potato patch getting ready for the fall harvest; and even the six months' trees doing their share; the palm trees, which are planted along the driveway sending out new leaves; and the watermelons, cantaloupes, fine Hubbard squash and pumpkins growing beneath the palm trees, and all of them doing splendidly; and the miniature cotton field with plants already two or three feet high beginning to make the boles, which are sure to burst into snowy puffs in the next sixty days; the sunflowers growing on the edge of the place, some of them having blossoms measuring 18 inches across; the orange trees making a growth equal to the best that can be found in the State of California; and the hogs taking weight from the rich feed they get from the waste of our farm—my wife and I agree that there is a whole lot of satisfaction in farming on the intensive basis.

"I am not a professional farmer; I am in business that gives me very little time to farm, but I have applied common sense principles to farming, and my main idea in planting out my little ten acres was to demonstrate what can be grown on land in the Sacramento Valley. My experience proves that it will pay net to the owner who employs intensive cultivation methods a profit of \$100 to \$500 per acre annually."



MODERN HOME OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, CITY OF SACRAMENTO.  
(Photo by McCurry)

## THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO

*Capital of State of California  
Population About 75,000*

**S**ACRAMENTO CITY is one of the oldest in California and is rich in historical interest. It was here where the late Collis P. Huntington, Leland Stanford, Mark Hopkins, Charles Crocker and other western pioneers of genius and enterprise conceived the plan of building a great transcontinental railroad. It was here where the first rails were laid that afterwards became connected with the Central Pacific Railroad, which was the first railway system to operate across the then wild prairies of the West. This will always be known in the annals of American industry as one of the greatest achievements of the age in which it was consummated.

It was in Sacramento where General John A. Sutter camped in 1839 while blazing the way for a new civilization. He erected a fort for the protection of his people against the depredations of savages who roamed the country in that early day. Sutter's Fort still stands in the heart of Sacramento as a landmark. It is the property of the State and is surrounded by a beautiful evergreen park.

In the days of the discovery of gold in California, Sacramento was the central distributing point for supplies shipped into the mines. It was the commercial center of the State and the home of some of the most notable men of America who have left their mark forever on the scroll where is recorded the achievements of genius. Mark Twain, the great literateur and humorist, worked as a newspaper writer in Sacramento. Bret Harte, whose name will forever be identified with the brightest lights in Western literature, lived in Sacramento. George Kenyon, the famous writer and Russian explorer, received his education in the public schools of Sacramento. It was here where Henry



TWO OF THE LARGEST SAVINGS BANKS IN SACRAMENTO CITY.  
(Photo by McCurry)

George, the noted political economist, first began his career as a writer. Space will not allow of further reference to the brilliant men of the past who lived and labored in Sacramento, but there were many of them and through their energy and genius, the foundation for a splendid civilization was laid.

#### Sacramento a Center of Transportation.

Sacramento is undoubtedly destined to be one of the largest railway centers on the Pacific Coast. Its main waterway, the Sacramento River, which is navigable from San Francisco to Red Bluff, 300 miles north of the Bay, is the key to the entire transportation situation, and has tremendous possibilities of development. This river insures equitable freight rates.

Only a short time ago the Government commission of engineers reported to Congress in favor of spending \$33,000,000 to control and use its flood waters, this work would also reclaim nearly 1,000,000 acres of the most fertile bottom land. Since the recommendation was made, private enterprises have expended fully \$15,000,000 along the lines of the Commission's report—a convincing proof of the rapidity of development.

The river stands fourth among the rivers of the United States in tonnage carried. Approximately 200,000 passengers are transported upon it each year, and approximately 500,000 tons of produce, valued at over \$32,000,000.

Practically three transcontinental railways, the Southern Pacific, the Western Pacific and the Santa Fe, now pass through Sacramento, the latter having fast electric train connections between Sacramento and Stockton, by way of the Central California Traction line. The Northern Electric has over 100 miles of track in operation, tapping the Sacramento Valley. The Vallejo Northern, and the Sacramento and Woodland, have recently entered the city, and the Oakland and Antioch Railway Co. is operating from the Bay Cities into the Capital City. Other interurban railways have been incorporated and will soon build lines from Sacramento in various sections of the country.



ONE OF THE BUSY BLOCKS IN THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO.  
(Photo by McCurry)

## The Geography of Sacramento Speaks Volumes for Its Future.

Sacramento, the Capital City of the great State of California, is the natural distributing center of the largest and most fertile agricultural empire tributary to any city in the world, and known as the Sacramento Valley.

It is so located, geographically, that everything that is produced in the great and rapidly developing agricultural, mineral, water and timber domain to the north of it must pay tribute to the city as its natural distributing point.

Immediately surrounding Sacramento, and taking in the territory for miles to the north, more than \$200,000,000 have in recent years been invested in irrigation and reclamation projects, and power development. One company alone is reclaiming fully 100,000 acres of the richest river bottom soil, and another fully 25,000 acres immediately at the doors of Sacramento.

### Sacramento's Unrivaled Climate.

Of Sacramento's climate, Mr. N. R. Taylor, of the United States Weather Bureau, makes the following statement over his own signature:

"Even a student of climate, who is trained to analyze the various types of weather, cannot repress his enthusiasm when dealing with the harmonious mixtures of the various atmospheric elements that go to make the climate of this section."

(Signed)

N. R. TAYLOR,

Local Forecaster, U. S. Weather Bureau.

Mr. Taylor has prepared the following figures:

### U. S. TEMPERATURE DATA

#### At Sacramento, California, for a Period of 35 Years.

MONTH	Mean	Absolute Maximum	Absolute Minimum	Average number of days 90 degrees or above	Average number of days 32 degrees or below
December .....	47	69	24	0	2
January .....	46	72	19	0	4
February .....	50	76	21	0	1
Winter Mean.....	47	..	..	0	7
March .....	54	80	29	0	0
April .....	58	89	35	0	0
May .....	64	98	39	1	0
Spring Mean .....	59	..	..	1	0
June .....	70	106	44	5	0
July .....	74	110	47	12	0
August .....	73	108	48	13	0
Summer Mean.....	72	..	..	30	0
September .....	70	106	44	7	0
October .....	62	98	36	1	0
November .....	54	81	27	0	1
Fall Mean.....	62	..	..	8	1
Annual Mean .....	60	..	..	39	8

Other mean annual temperatures: Los Angeles, 63.1; San Diego, 60.7; Riverside, 64.2; San Francisco, 55.2.

Highest temperature ever recorded—110 deg. July 8, 1905.

Lowest temperature ever recorded—19 deg. January 15, 1888. Average humidity is low, being only about 69 per cent.

The sunstroke or depression from heat unknown. Nights always cool.



TWO MODERN SKYSCRAPERS IN SACRAMENTO CITY. UPPER BUILDING, TRAVELERS' HOTEL. LOWER, FORUM OFFICE STRUCTURE. (Photos by McCurry.)

### Sacramento's Advantages.

Sacramento's population of about 75,000 shows an increase of approximately 130 per cent. in the last eleven years.

Sacramento is the natural distributing center of a large portion of Northern and Central California, which includes the matchless Sacramento Valley with its 12,000,000 acres of fertile valley and foothill soil.

Sacramento is a great steam railroad center, and electric railroads serve the surrounding country in every direction, and for more than 200 miles to the north and 100 miles to the south.

Sacramento has a climate unrivaled by that of any other section in the State, its mean average temperature for the entire year being 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

Sacramento is the location of the general shops of the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific Railroad Companies.

Sacramento is the center of the greatest deciduous fruit growing district in the world, over 75 per cent of all the deciduous fruit grown in the entire State being produced within a radius of 45 miles of the Capital City.

Sacramento has eight banks with total deposits of over \$31,000,000, and assets of over \$40,000,000.

Sacramento has an ostrich farm, which speaks volumes for its equable climate.

Sacramento is declared by the Board of Health to be the second healthiest city in the United States.

Sacramento has a Country Club possessing a splendid year-around golf course, and it is about to build a new home and unexcelled links on the beautiful bluffs of the American River.

Sacramento has over 100 miles of paved streets, nearly all of which are asphalt macadam, and over 120 miles of cement sidewalks, and is paving its remaining streets under a comprehensive and business-like plan.

Sacramento has built seven new and modern hotels during the past three years and nearly a score of Class "A" office buildings.

Sacramento has a State Library and Law Library second to none in the West.

Sacramento has, in the Crocker Art Gallery, the finest art gallery west of the Mississippi River.

Sacramento has fifty churches which embrace all denominations.

Sacramento's post office receipts show an increase of approximately 68 per cent. in three years and over 200 per cent. in ten years.

Sacramento has built a \$750,000 Court House, and has a new \$300,000 City Hall.

Sacramento has a State Capitol Park of 34 acres of tropical and semi-tropical foliage, the equal of which is not to be found anywhere in the world.

Sacramento has 140 passenger trains in and out of the city each day, steam and electric, four interurban electric lines and others being built and projected.

Sacramento has four miles of water front on the fourth greatest carrying river in the United States and on which ply the steamers of four competing transportation systems.

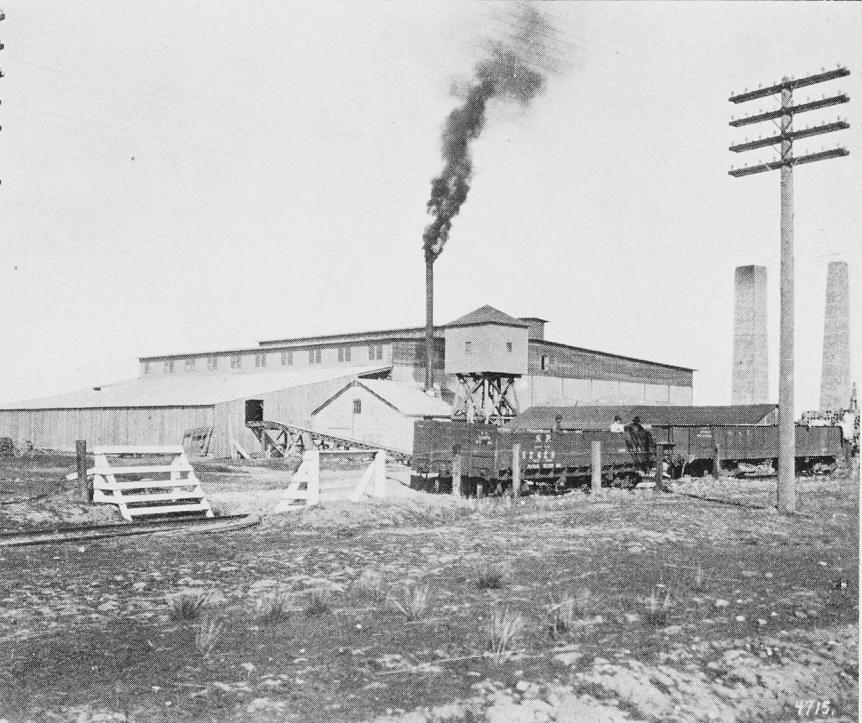
Sacramento has cheap electrical power furnished by two of the largest hydro-electric systems in the world, and an abundance of gas for fuel.

Sacramento is spending nearly \$1,000,000 to make its school system the equal of any.

Sacramento, in 1912, raised \$250,000 for a new Y. M. C. A. building. It is now completed.

Sacramento's tax rate is limited by charter to \$1.25 per \$100 valuation, assessment being on a 60 per cent. basis.

Sacramento is a jobbing center, doing a \$30,000,000 to \$40,000,000 business annually.



TWO INDUSTRIAL PLANTS OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY. UPPER, LIBBY, MCNEILL & LIBBY FRUIT CANNERY. LOWER, SILICA BRICK PLANT. (Photos by McCurry.)

# SACRAMENTO COUNTY SOILS

*Various Types and Their Great Productive Quality*

**T**HE soils of Sacramento County consist mainly of six general types, commonly known as bottom lands, delta lands, adobe lands, sandy loam plains, gravelly loam and rolling.

The bottom lands are bordering the Sacramento River as far south as Courtland and its tributaries running through the county from the western slope of the great Sierra Nevada Mountains.

The "delta lands" are located in what is generally referred to as the "Island District." As the name implies they lie in the delta of the Sacramento River and from the very nature of their formation are the richest in organic matter of any distinct type of Sacramento County soils, owing to the fact that they are formed by the depositing of the finer silts which gradually filled the swamps at the upper end of the bay which now is known as San Francisco Bay. These silt deposits annually produced a prodigious growth of vegetation, such as tules, flags, swamp grass and pond lilies.

This vegetation, owing to seasonal influences decomposed annually, only to be followed by the same growth again the following season until the delta became one vast mass of decomposed vegetable matter more or less mixed with the finer silts deposited by the rivers. The upper end of the delta district receiving more silt, accounts for the heavier lands of the delta district being found in the vicinity of Courtland, Walnut Grove, and on the rim of Grand Island and the rims of most of the other Islands the heavier silt deposits are found, while the interior of these islands are principally peat land.

These delta lands are especially adapted to the production of potatoes, onions, beans, celery, tomatoes, cantaloupes, garden truck in general, and along the borders of the various branches of the Sacramento River running between these islands are raised large quantities of pears, peaches, plums, apricots, cherries and vineyard products.

The adobe lands generally lay between the river overflow lands and the higher plains lands. The adobe province commences a few miles south of the City of Sacramento and extends approximately twenty miles south to the vicinity of the Cosumnes River and ranges from three to ten miles in width, with occasional fans or streaks of what is commonly called "red land," running out into this adobe area. These adobe lands are exceedingly rich in organic matter. Their composition is a fine clay or silt deposit formed by the general wash from slopes lodging on the flats below. They have in previous eras grown great quantities of vegetation, which accounts for their organic formation. They are strong soils, and some of our most successful farmers have laid the foundation of their fortunes in the so-called "adobe district." Under modern and scientific treatment they respond very readily to intensive cultivation, and although generally hard to work, they produce abundantly of alfalfa, Tokay and wine grapes, and where carrying from 15 to 20 per cent sand, make very good general orchard land. Some of our best grain and hay crops are produced on our adobe lands. In fact, they have probably held out better than any other type of soil in the Sacramento Valley in the production of grain and hay crops.

## "Sandy Loam Plains."

The sandy loam plains are found north of the American River outside of the overflow area, and south of the American River to the southern boundary of Sacramento County, a distance of some twenty or twenty-five miles. In

SACRAMENTO RIVER BOTTOM LAND FARM WHERE ALFALFA PRODUCES TEN TONS TO THE ACRE ANNUALLY.  
(Photo by McCurry)



this plains land district are some of the most thrifty communities in the State of California; for example, the Florin and Elk Grove districts and the town of Galt. These plains lands are an alluvial deposit. The major portion of these plains is underlaid by a hard oxidized clay strata mentioned above, commonly called "hard-pan." This hard-pan is generally impenetrable to root growth, but when jarred or broken up by the use of powder, which is now customary in the planting of trees and vines, large quantities of nitrate, phosphate and lime which it contains becomes soluble and furnishes the very best plant food to sustain plant life. These great plains have been gradually converted from grazing and farming lands into productive vineyards, orchards and alfalfa patches.

Intensive cultivation is practiced extensively, and where fundamental principles of scientific farming are applied on this character of land splendid success rewards the farmer. Millions of dollars' worth of products are annually shipped from these plains, the principal products being Tokay grapes, deciduous fruit, orchard products, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, loganberries, eggs, poultry, dairy products, garden truck, etc. The top soil for a foot in depth carries from 15 to 25 per cent sand. This gradually merges into a sandy clay loam, then into a clay loam sub-soil overlaying the hardpan.

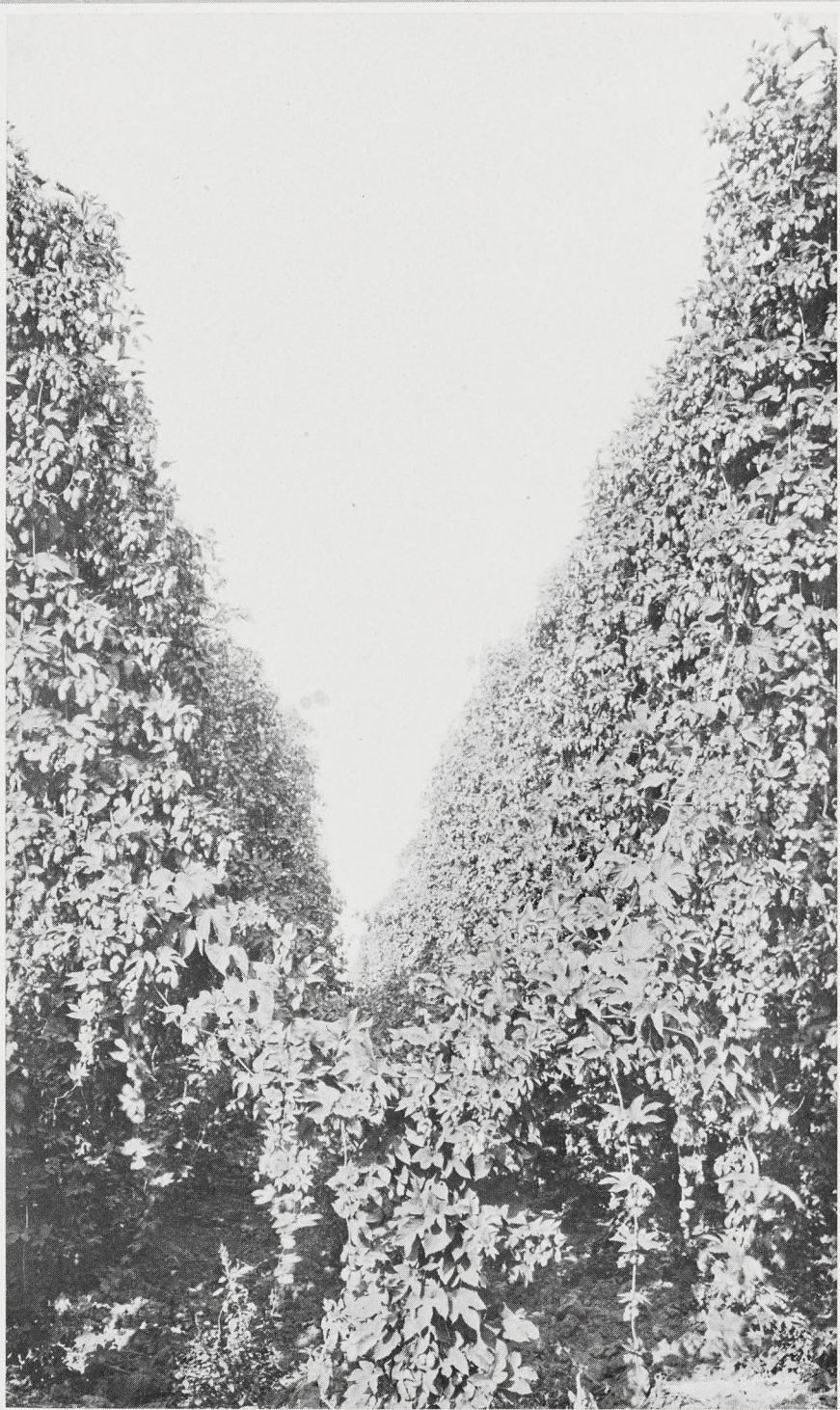
#### **"Gravelly Loam."**

The gravelly loam deposits lay generally in the area between the foothills and the sandy loam plains spoken of above. These gravelly deposits are wash "fans" from the high Sierra slopes. They lay generally south of the American River, beginning from one to two miles south of this river and extend on down crossing the Cosumnes River about Dry Creek. These lands also respond very readily to intensive and scientific cultivation. They are highly mineralized, generally red of color, contain from one to one and eight-tenths per cent iron, and are splendidly adapted to the culture of oranges, olives and almonds. The deeper soils are especially adapted to the production of peaches and other deciduous fruits, Tokay and wine grapes, hay, grain and grazing. They require, as a general thing, irrigation for the production of the crops enumerated above except hay and grain, although there are many examples where orchards and vineyards have produced profitable crops for years without any irrigation but have been cultivated persistently, as these lands retain moisture under proper surface cultivation.

#### **"Rolling Lands."**

The rolling lands are found at Antelope and skirt along the border of the Sierra Nevadas, including the Fair Oaks and Orangevale districts, crossing the American River and continuing on down through the Folsom district, they border the eastern portion of Sacramento County very close to its southern line. The soils of the rolling hills are more or less residual, generally being composed of disintegrated slate and decomposed granite. These rolling hills were formed from a later uplift. The top soil is generally a sandy loam, easily tilled, and has a sandy clay subsoil, rich in minerals that encourage plant life. From two to four feet is generally found a strata resembling hard-pan and when blasted it readily attracts the roots of trees and vines.

This district is located in the thermal belt, where citrus fruits, olives, grapes and other deciduous fruits reach the highest state of perfection. These hills in their natural state contained large forests of California oak, such as live oak, white and blue oak. They are very picturesque. None of these rolling hills are too steep for cultivation, and by contour ditches are successfully irrigated. These rolling lands together with the gravelly loam area mentioned above are destined to become one of the greatest citrus, olive and almond producing districts in the world. This district is naturally adapted to products of this character, and hundreds of farmers are now planting these staple fruits.



ENORMOUS PROFITS IN A SPLENDID STAND OF HOPS, SACRAMENTO COUNTY.  
(Photo by McCurry)

# PRODUCTS AND PROFITS

*General Information on  
Soil Productivity*

**S**ACRAMENTO County is one of the foremost fruit producing counties in the entire State of California. Deciduous and citrus fruits of all the standard market varieties are grown here in great quantities. Practically every acre of land in the county is suited to the production of some variety of fruit. The three essentials for success in fruit culture are here—climate, soil and water.

Fruit growers in the county have never experienced a crop failure, although, as with all farm products, the yield and profits vary each year. The total number of trees of all kinds of fruits and nuts in the county is estimated at 1,600,000, of which 600,000 have been planted during the past two years. The plantings during the Spring of 1914 will probably total 200,000. The county now produces fully 5,600 carloads annually of citrus and deciduous fruits, nuts and grapes. When all the trees that have been planted during the past three years are in full bearing, this output will be more than doubled. There are several ways in which these products are marketed; they are either dried, packed by canneries or sold in the fresh state in local and Eastern markets. The total value of the fruit crop exceeds \$6,000,000 a year.

## Deciduous Fruits.

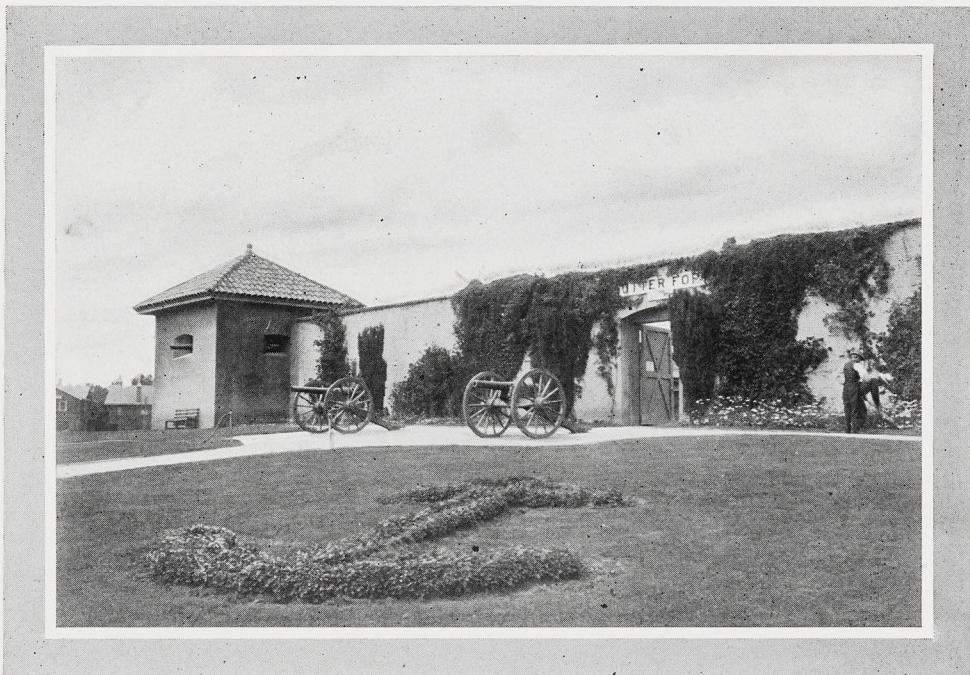
The deciduous fruits grown in Sacramento County in great quantities are the Bartlett pear, the peach, plums and prunes, apricots, cherries, figs and nectarines. The season starts in May when the early cherries begin to ripen and continues until October. The first fruits sell in the East for extraordinarily high prices. Apricots follow cherries and then come peaches, pears, plums, prunes, nectarines, etc. The shipping reaches its height during July and August and during these months as many as 100 carloads of fresh fruit a day are cleared out of Sacramento for Eastern markets.

The dry atmosphere of the Sacramento Valley is ideal for ripening deciduous fruits. The warm rays of the sun, which shines nearly 100 per cent of the time during the Summer months, give color to the tree products and a high percentage of sugar to the flesh of the fruits. The low percentage of humidity in the valley, which generally is less than 20 per cent, makes it possible to produce fruits with remarkable carrying qualities. That is why Sacramento County fruits are marketed in the fresh state in every State in the Union during the Summer months and even European cities. The dry atmosphere also makes conditions ideal for curing fruits by the sun drying process. Rain rarely falls until after the fruit drying season is over.

## The Bartlett Pear.

The Bartlett pear is produced in greater quantity than any other deciduous fruit in Sacramento County. The pear produces heavily both on the bottom lands and on the irrigated uplands. There are at present no less than half a million trees of this variety in the county. They ripen in July and August and are the first pears to reach the market. They are large, sweet, juicy, and of delicate taste. Bartletts are in great demand both for canning and for the fresh market. About 1200 carloads are produced each year.

Pears begin bearing a paying crop in Sacramento County, where conditions are favorable for rapid growth, in about the fifth year. They continue to produce for fifty years or more. Mature orchards pay from \$100 to \$400 an acre net profit a year. Other varieties of pears are produced but the Bartlett is the most popular.



AN INTERESTING CALIFORNIA LANDMARK, SUTTER'S FORT.  
(Photo by McCurry)

Howard Kercheval, of Courtland, is one of the most successful Bartlett pear growers of the county.

#### **Plums and Prunes.**

Plums and prunes are so closely allied that they are generally considered together. The only difference between plums and prunes is that all drying varieties of plums are called prunes. In other words, prunes are plums that can be dried without removing the pit. There are at present 300,000 plum and prune trees in Sacramento County and the production is about 850 carloads a year. All varieties of plums and prunes do well here. Sacramento County prunes are equal, if not superior to the imported prunes in every respect. The annual profit for plums and prunes ranges from \$75 to \$200 per acre.

Fred Grimshaw of the Cosumnes River district has sold \$36,000 worth of prunes from twenty acres in the past three years.

#### **Peaches.**

All varieties of the peach grow to perfection in Sacramento County. The fruit here attains nearly twice the size of the peaches of Eastern States and has a sweetness and aroma that only a long cloudless Summer can give. The peach is dried, sold to canneries and shipped in the fresh state to Eastern markets. When shipped East, it frequently meets with competition from peaches from other States, but when sold to the cannery it is a sure profit producer. More peaches are canned in the Sacramento Valley than any other fruit and good prices are paid for the best packing varieties. These are the Tuscan, Phillips and Levi clings. Peaches pay from \$75 to \$250 an acre, and they begin to bear a profitable crop in three years after planting. The fruit requires a well-drained soil and the trees should be set out about twenty-four feet apart.

Mrs. Sol Runyon of Sacramento, who has a large ranch at Courtland, is one of the county's most successful peach growers. She produces cling varieties and averages from ten to twelve tons to the acre.



A TYPICAL PLAYGROUND IN THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO.

### Apricots.

California is the only State in the Union that can successfully produce the apricot and there is no location in which the fruit does better than in Sacramento County. The fruit reaches the market early and hence there is always a demand for it. The present production in Sacramento County is about 120 carloads a year. As there has been heavy planting of young apricot trees during the past three years, this number will grow as the new trees begin to bear. The apricot ships well and for drying and canning, it has no superior. The fruit ripens from the middle of May to the latter part of June and pays from \$75 to \$150 an acre profit. The tree is of long life, unless grafted on a peach root, and will continue to bear profitably for fifty years or more.

### Cherries.

Sacramento County cherries are usually first to reach the market. They ripen in May and frequently sell in the early part of the season for as high as \$100 for a ten-pound box, or \$10 a pound. The first shipments are made by express direct to New York, where they are eagerly purchased. As the crop becomes more plentiful, carload shipments go forward. Carload shipments frequently bring from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per car. The tree thrives in all parts of Sacramento County. The principal varieties are the Bing, the Royal Ann, the Black Tartarian and the Governor Wood. Many others, however, are grown. There are now 50,000 cherry trees in the county. The profits per acre range from \$100 to \$250 annually.

Stanley R. Gage, of Elk Grove, is one of the county's successful cherry growers.

### Less Important Deciduous Fruits.

Figs, apples and nectarines are also produced commercially in Sacramento County, although not in great quantities. The fig production, however, prom-

TOKAY GRAPES GROW IN WONDERFUL ABUNDANCE IN SACRAMENTO.



ises to become important in time. Now that the Smyrna fig can be successfully produced here, excellent opportunity is offered for profits in fig culture. The fig pays well and the demand does not now equal the supply. Sacramento County is the home of the fig, the tree attaining great size and producing heavily here.

The apples grown in Sacramento County are of the early Summer varieties. They attain large size and are of excellent flavor. They are produced principally on the river lands.

There are about 1,500 trees of nectarines in the county, the fruit from which always finds a ready market.

The quince is also produced in small quantities. Pomegranates and persimmons also grow here, but the trees are ornamental rather than commercial, although the fruit of each matures and is frequently sold in the local markets.

#### Nut Production.

Walnuts and almonds both do well in Sacramento County. This is the home of the California black walnut and there is at Walnut Grove in this county, one of the few remaining groves of this tree. The black walnut tree is used largely for shade and ornamental purposes in Sacramento County. The tree attains a large growth and is deciduous, affording generous shade in the months of Summer. The English walnut grafted onto the black walnut stock is a successful producer. During the past few years many walnut trees have been planted and this promises an important crop in the future. Walnuts are of slow growth and it is usually the practice to plant some deciduous fruit, such as peaches between the rows of walnut trees, so as to have a producing crop while the nut trees are maturing. When the nut trees attain full growth, the fruit trees may be taken out. Walnut trees should be planted about forty feet apart. They produce when mature \$200 to \$800 per acre.

Tribble Brothers of Elk Grove have a magnificent grove of bearing walnut trees.

The almond is another crop upon which California has a monopoly, as this wholesome nut can be produced commercially in no other State in the Union. The almond does exceedingly well on the uplands of Sacramento County. It is an early bloomer and hence cannot be produced in districts where there are late heavy frosts. The tree requires a deep warm soil and is usually produced without irrigation. It does best on sloping land where there is an air drain to a lower level, to draw off the cold air. Almonds produce from \$75 to \$200 per acre. Many thousand almond trees have been planted in Sacramento County during the past three years.

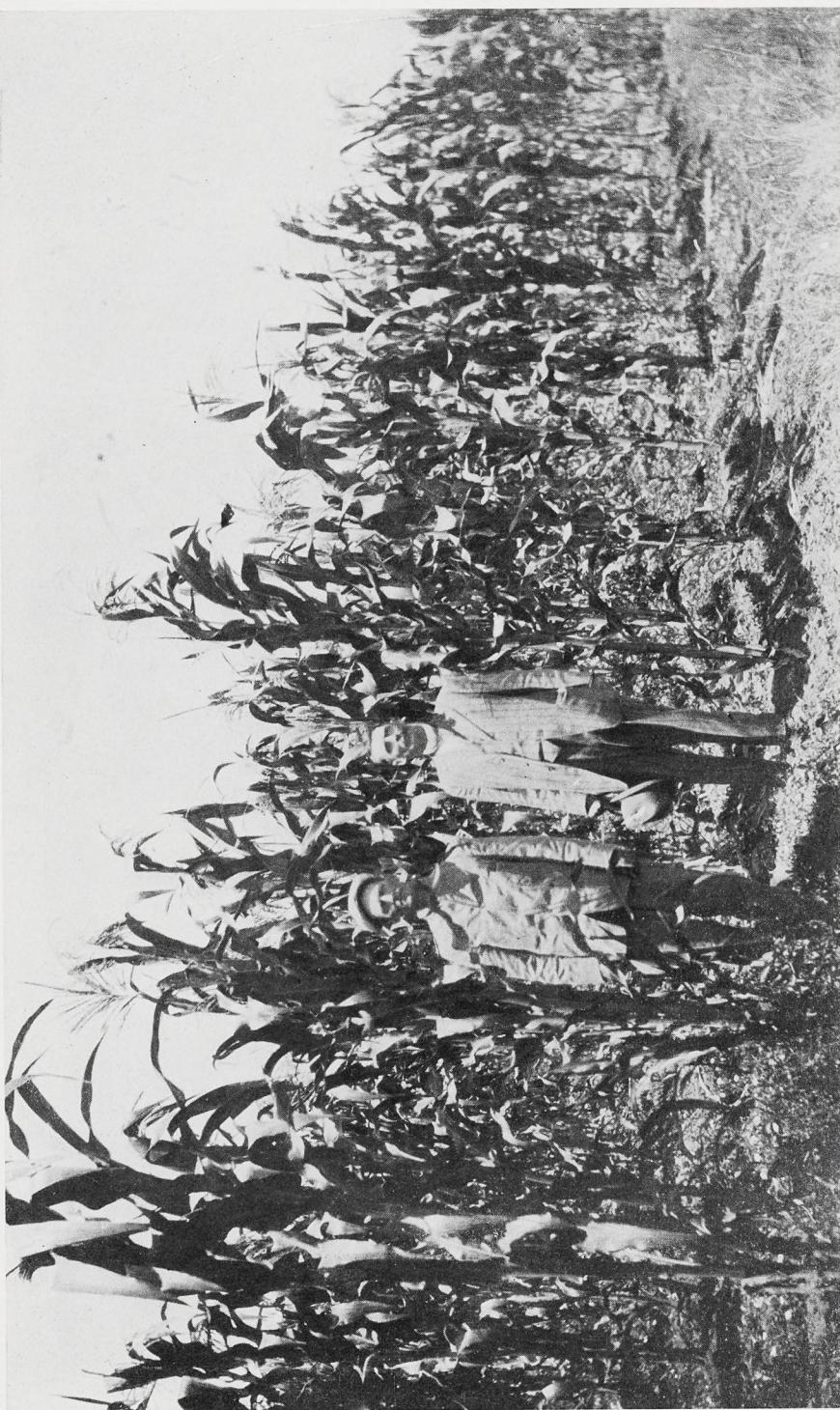
Fred J. Bishop, of Fair Oaks, and J. L. Patterson, of Orangevale, are among the county's land owners who have profitable almond groves.

#### Citrus Fruits.

For the production of citrus fruits, the lands of Sacramento County are unsurpassed. The orange, the lemon and the grape fruit or pomelo all grow luxuriantly and produce heavily. Sacramento County oranges begin to ripen during the latter part of October and are the first to reach the markets of the world. They are sold from six weeks to two months before the oranges of Southern California are marketable. This early ripening has two advantages. First, it gives the growers the benefit of the best market and secondly, it permits the harvest of all the fruit before the cold weather. The Sacramento County orange growers have their fruit all sold before Christmas.

The possibilities of orange production in Sacramento County have hardly been touched. County Horticultural Commissioner Bloomer says that there are between 50,000 and 60,000 acres of land in the county that can grow citrus fruits. At present only about 5,000 acres of these lands are improved. Fully 100,000 young orange trees, however, will be planted in the Spring of 1914. The

IN A PROSPEROUS AND PROFITABLE CORN FIELD, SACRAMENTO COUNTY.



orange requires a heavy, well drained soil and does best in rolling land at an elevation between 75 and 300 feet. It requires irrigation, cultivation and fertilization to get the best results. Sacramento County Washington navel oranges have no superior and are marketed in the large cities of New Zealand and Australia, as well as in the big centers of population in the Eastern States of America. Orange profits vary from \$100 to \$400 per acre per year, according to the age of the tree and the care and cultivation given them by the grower. The total production in the county a year is now about 240 carloads.

Lemons and grape fruit are also extensively grown in Sacramento County, although not in such large quantities as the orange. Fair Oaks and Orangevale are the orange producing districts of the county.

In 1913, Fred J. Bishop harvested ten tons per acre from ten acres planted to oranges in Fair Oaks. These were sold for \$40 a ton.

#### **Olives.**

For a great many years olives have been successfully produced in Sacramento County, but it has only been during the past few years, however, that the crop has become one of importance. Since the process of pickling ripe olives has been in practice, olives are in great demand and in the Fall of 1913 as high as \$200 a ton was paid for the best pickling olives. A mature grove yields from two to six tons of olives to the acre, so it can readily be seen that there is profit in the fruit. The olive tree lives for several generations and once a grove is mature, it will continue a money producer almost indefinitely. No State in the Union can compete with California in the production of the olive and hence olive growers have nothing to fear from overproduction.

At the grove of Hinkle & Buchanan at Fair Oaks in 1913, an eight-year-old olive grove produced two tons to the acre. These were Manzanillo olives, which were sold for \$200 a ton.

#### **Grapes.**

Sacramento County is famous for its grapes. Both wine and table grapes are produced in great quantities and are grown in all parts of the county. Of the table grapes grown, the peerless Flame Tokay is best known. This reaches perfection on Sacramento County soil. In 1913, William O. Davies of Florin produced from 200 to 300 shipping crates of Tokays to the acre. These sold in Eastern markets for prices ranging between \$1 and \$2 a crate. The largest Tokay vineyard in the world is located in Sacramento County. It is the property of the California Vineyard Company and contains about 400 acres planted to one variety of grapes.

There are ten wineries and distilleries in the county. The port and sherry of Sacramento County are particularly well known. The oldest winery in the State is located at Sacramento.

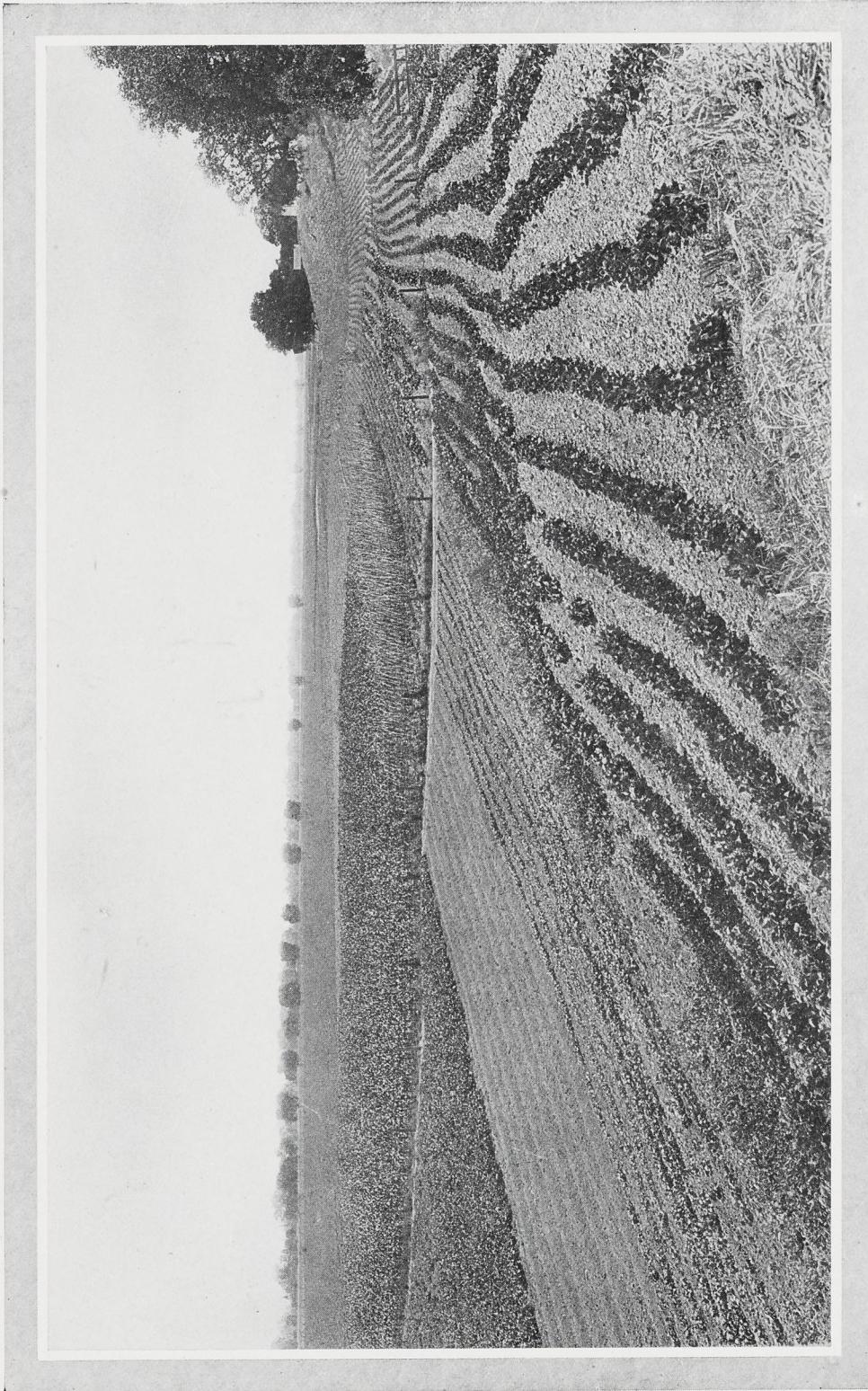
#### **Alfalfa.**

One of the most important crops in Sacramento County and that which engages the attention of most new settlers, is alfalfa. This is the greatest fodder plant known and has found a home to its liking in the Sacramento Valley. Alfalfa can be grown both on river bottom land and on irrigated upland. It produces an average of ten tons to the acre on the river lands and from five to six tons to the acre on irrigated upland. On December 1, 1913, the price that was being paid to the farmer for alfalfa was \$11 and \$12 a ton. Fully 5,000 acres have been planted to alfalfa in Sacramento County during the past two years.

#### **Dairying.**

Any country that grows alfalfa abundantly is an excellent dairy country, and hence Sacramento County is an ideal location for the dairy business. There

SACRAMENTO COUNTY HAS SOME OF THE BEST GARDEN TRUCK FARMS IN THE WORLD.



are several creameries in the county that purchase the butter fat from the dairy owners and pay cash. Butter and cheese are both manufactured extensively here and find a ready market, not only in cities over the entire Pacific Coast, but in the East as well.

#### **Hay and Grain.**

In former years Sacramento was in the front rank as a wheat producing county, but farm occupations that produce a greater profit to the acre have long since routed grain growing from the front rank. Much hay, however, is still produced on the unirrigated uplands.

#### **Livestock.**

While hogs, sheep and cattle are raised to some extent in Sacramento County, there is opportunity for great expansion of the live stock industry. Sheep and hogs fed on alfalfa are exceedingly profitable. Beef cattle and thoroughbred dairy stock can also be produced at a profit.

#### **Vegetables.**

Without a doubt, the islands in the delta of the Sacramento River comprise the greatest vegetable producing district on the American continent. These lands produce the choicest celery, asparagus, beans, potatoes, onions, tomatoes, canteloupes, cabbages, and many other vegetables in demand in the large cities of the nation. Sacramento River asparagus is shipped by express to Eastern markets for several months in the year. Sacramento County canned asparagus is the finest in the world and is sold in European as well as in American cities. Cabbages are shipped by the carload lot from Sacramento to New York City and celery from Sacramento finds its way into every large city in America. The vegetable lands are exceedingly rich and profitable. It is estimated that 6,000 carloads of vegetables of various kinds are produced annually on the delta lands.

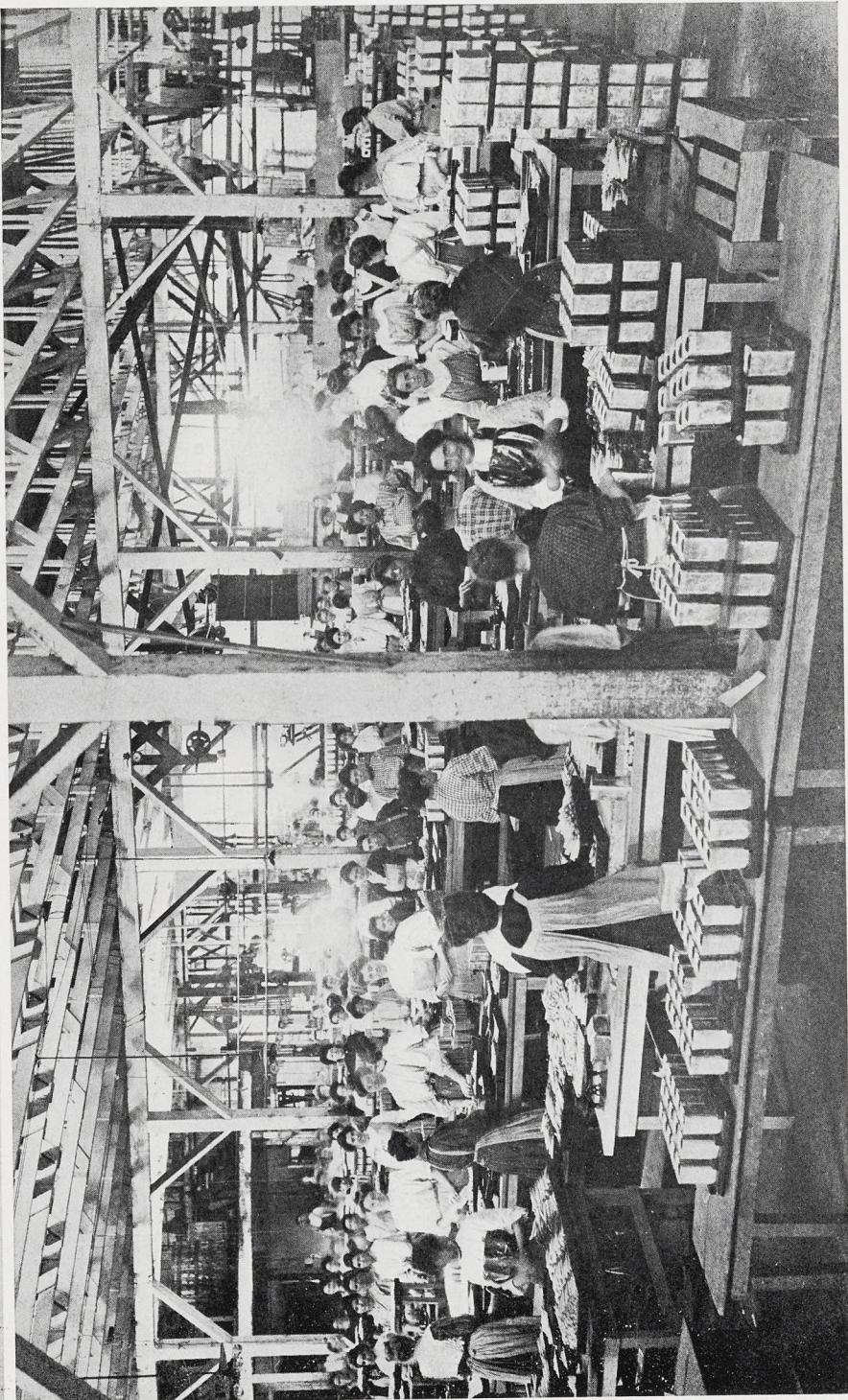
#### **Hops.**

Sacramento County is one of the best known hop producing districts on the American continent. Hops are grown on the bottom lands of the American, Cosumnes and Sacramento Rivers. The vines are heavy producers and are usually free from pests that infest many hop growing districts. Sacramento County hops produce heavier per acre than the hops on any other farms in America. During the last three years the price of hops has been very high and growers have made enormous profits. An acre of Sacramento County land produces about a ton of hops. It costs about eight cents a pound to grow and cure hops. All over that figure is profit to the grower. In November, 1913, the price reached 20 cents a pound.

#### **Poultry.**

Poultry raising is profitably conducted in Sacramento County, either as a side issue or as a specialized endeavor. Sacramento City, having a population of 75,000, consumes a large quantity of poultry products. The demand for fresh ranch eggs and poultry for the table always exceeds the supply. Because of the mild climate the birds lay a greater number of eggs than in colder States. By growing alfalfa, sunflowers and Egyptian corn, poultrymen can produce much of the food for the flock. The average price for eggs the year round is 25 cents a dozen, although the price has gone as high as 75 cents a dozen in Winter when eggs are scarce. When eggs are worth a nickel each, laying hens are money-makers. The average profit per hen a year in Sacramento County is about one dollar, although individual instances can be found where the profit exceeds that figure. One poultry raiser, C. T. Horgan, has a farm of 160 acres devoted exclusively to the chicken business.

INTERIOR OF GREAT FRUIT AND ASPARAGUS CANNING ESTABLISHMENT ON THE SACRAMENTO RIVER.



### **Berries.**

Berries are a profitable crop in many parts of Sacramento County. The district in the vicinity of Florin is one of the best strawberry districts in California. The berries are of excellent size and flavor and ripen early, which means that they find a good market. More than 300 carloads of berries are shipped annually from the county. The berry crop is worth about half a million dollars a year to the county. A good berry patch pays a profit of from \$250 to \$500 per acre annually.

### **Electric Energy.**

Electric power for all purposes is cheap in Sacramento County. This is because the swift streams of the Sierra Nevada Mountains afford many excellent power sites where electricity is generated. One of the first long distance transmission power lines on the American continent was in Sacramento County. A power plant was erected at Folsom in 1888 and the energy was transmitted to Sacramento City, twenty-two miles distant. This was regarded as a marvelous achievement at the time, although power is now transmitted over far greater distances. There are two big power companies operating in Sacramento County, supplying energy to farms for various purposes, as well as to city homes.

### **Manufactures.**

The manufacturing industry of Sacramento County is of great importance and it promises to increase rapidly after the opening of the Panama Canal, when cheaper freight rates will permit the bringing of raw material here for manufacturing purposes. There are several reasons why manufacturing will grow here. One of these is the location of the city. Sacramento is commercially supreme in the great Sacramento Valley. This rich and growing territory, capable of supporting several million persons, draws its supplies from Sacramento City. Transportation facilities in Sacramento are unexcelled. Two transcontinental railroads, four interurban electric lines and the navigable Sacramento River give the manufacturer every transportation facility needed for receiving raw material and shipping the finished product.

At present there are located many great industries in Sacramento. Principal among these are the shops of the Southern Pacific Company, employing an average of 3,500 men, the Western Pacific shops, the Libby, McNeill & Libby Cannery, the factory of the Central California Cannery, the Capital Candy & Cracker Company, the Phoenix Flour Mills and numerous other factories for the manufacture of such products as brick, cigars, leather goods, olive, oil, spirit and malt liquors, pipe, furniture, pumps, machinery, casks, flavoring extracts, food products, etc.

### **Mining.**

While Sacramento County is not generally known as a mining district, it is nevertheless, the fifth county in California in the production of gold. During 1912, according to figures compiled by the United States Geological Survey, the gold production of the county was \$1,712,587. Gold has always been mined to some extent in the county, but it has only been during the past ten years, since the introduction of dredge mining, that the county has come to the front as a gold producer. The gravel soil along the American River is exceedingly rich in gold. Some silver is also found, as a by-product of the gold mining. Another important mineral product is macadam, which is also a by-product of the gold dredging. The cobbles left by the dredges after the gold is extracted from the gravel, are crushed by powerful machinery and the rock is used for road and business construction. The county contains big clay deposits and brick is one of the important manufactured articles.



DEPOT OF WESTERN PACIFIC RAILWAY, TRANSCONTINENTAL LINE.

## THE COST OF LIVING

*In Sacramento County,  
California*

**F**ARMERS of Eastern and Middle Western States who contemplate coming to California to follow the great industry of husbandry in Sacramento County, where intelligent effort is rewarded in greater degree than in any other farming section of America, will be interested in a few words on the cost of living in Sacramento County and what it costs to get a start here. With all things considered, the cost of living is but little, if any higher in Sacramento County than in farming sections east of the Rocky Mountains. It is quite true that some articles, particularly those manufactured in the East, are higher priced here than in States nearer to the cities in which they are made, due to the difference in freight rates, which will be lowered in the future because of the opening of the Panama Canal, but in other respects living here is cheaper, so that, all things considered, there is very little difference in the cost of living in Sacramento County and anywhere else in the United State. For instance, in the mild California climate, the cost of Winter clothing is much less than in some of the cold Eastern States. It should also be taken into consideration that the average wage paid in California is higher than in the East and that the profits from farm lands are greater. The relative cost, therefore, is really very little if any higher.

The question as to how much money a man should have before coming to Sacramento County is a difficult one to answer. The answer is different in almost every case. Some men have come here with very little and have succeeded wonderfully; they had pluck, energy and good common sense. Others can do just as well, as there are as many opportunities for men of small means



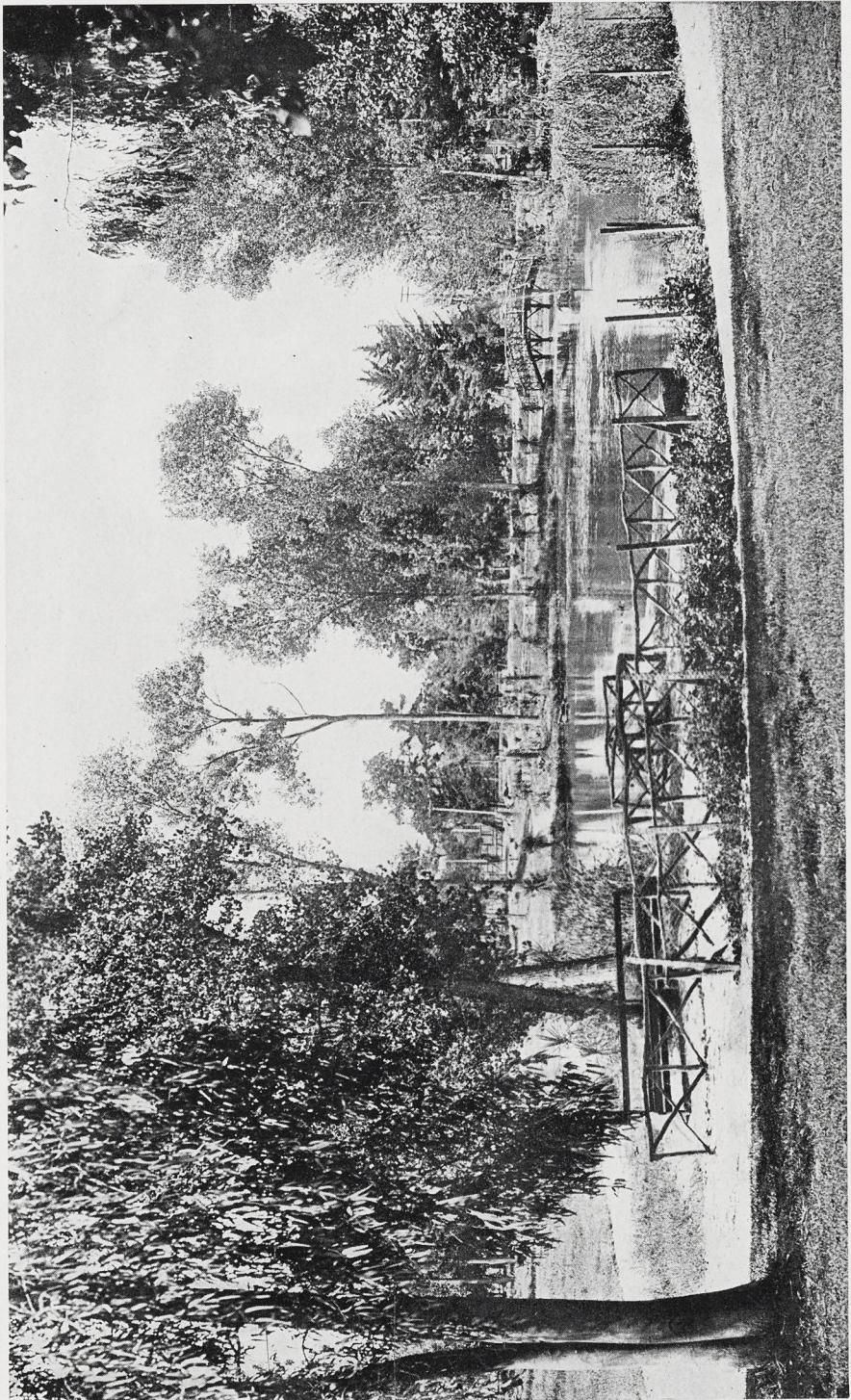
ONE OF SACRAMENTO'S BEAUTIFUL CHURCHES.

to make money in California as there were in the past. It is best, however, for the newcomer to have some means. He should have enough so that after he purchases a farm he will still have a balance to draw from for the support of himself and family until his farm is on a paying basis. If he buys an improved farm, he should, of course, get returns the first year. If he buys unimproved land he should have at least enough money to carry him through two years if he intends to grow alfalfa and four years if he plants fruit trees.

It should also be taken into consideration, however, that the cost of living on a farm can be greatly reduced by a cow, a vegetable garden and a chicken yard. These three sources of revenue will do more than provide the family's living expenses. This has been fully exemplified by Mr. B. Schroeder, of the Carmichael Colony, Sacramento County. Mr. Schroeder has ten acres that he purchased about two years ago. He has built a home and has planted his holding to peach and apricot trees. It will be two years yet before his trees bear a paying crop. In the meantime he is supporting his family by raising vegetables between the rows of trees. He sells his vegetables in Sacramento. During 1913 he put over \$700 in a Sacramento savings bank. This represented the profit over and above his living expenses, from his vegetables, his chickens and his cow.

#### The Price of Land.

As to the price of land. There is probably no place in the world that offers better opportunities for the man of small means to purchase land than in Sacramento County. The prices for which land is now selling are reasonable, indeed, when the earning power, if properly farmed, is taken into consideration. Unimproved land may be purchased for prices ranging from \$75 to \$300 per acre. The price varies according to soil, location and transportation facilities. The land that can be purchased for \$75 an acre is rolling upland, suitable for various kinds of fruits. Most of it can be irrigated. Unimproved irrigated land is valued at from \$175 to \$300 an acre. River bottom land sells for \$175 to



ARTIFICIAL LAKE IN CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND, MCKINLEY PARK, SACRAMENTO.

\$300 an acre. Alfalfa and all kinds of fruit can be grown on both irrigated upland and bottom land.

The prices of improved land vary according to the improvements. Some of the best paying orchard lands are valued as high as \$1,200 an acre. There are always opportunities, however, to purchase improved places for prices that range from \$300 an acre up, according to the improvements.

In the purchase of any land, great care should be taken by the purchaser. Prospective purchasers are advised to see the land themselves before closing a deal so that they will know exactly what they are purchasing. Frequently purchasers have tests of the soil they are purchasing made by experts so as to be sure that the conditions are suited to the crop to be grown.

Many prospective settlers wish to know whether or not there are opportunities to rent or lease good land. There are many such opportunities. River bottom farm lands, planted mostly to vegetable crops, such as asparagus, potatoes, beans, etc., bring an annual rental of from \$15 to \$30 an acre. At that figure the tenants make good profits. Grain lands are usually rented on a division of crop basis, the renter doing all the work and buying the seed, etc., and retaining 75 per cent of the crop as his share for his year's work. There are also many opportunities to rent improved fruit lands.

#### Cost of Building.

The cost of building in Sacramento County is a little higher than in the East. This is because some of the building material is higher here than in the East and wages paid skilled mechanics are higher. But owing to the fact that houses do not have to be erected in such a substantial manner, the mild climate of California permitting very attractive houses to be erected at much less expense than in the Eastern States; it is not necessary to dig cellars in which to put away supplies for the Winter, and the double floors, windows, etc., are all omitted.

Of course, if the settler can do his own carpenter work, the figures and estimates contained herein will be materially reduced. We give the cost of building small cottages herewith:

3-room Cottage—12x24, with 12x12 L, containing six windows, two outside doors, one closet, porches front and rear; inside, natural wood finish and paper; outside fully painted. Complete \$400.

4-room Cottage—24x26, containing eight windows, two outside doors, porches front and rear, one closet; inside, natural wood finish and paper; outside fully painted. Complete, \$600.

5-room Cottage—26x32, containing ten windows, two outside doors, two large closets, porches front and rear; inside, natural wood finish and paper; outside, fully painted. Complete, \$800.

5-room Bungalow—32x32, containing twelve windows, two outside doors, eight inside doors, five nice rooms, two closets and bath, sanitary patent closet, large porch extending across the front of the house, small porch in rear; natural wood finish and plaster inside; kitchen and bath room plumbing complete; outside of house fully painted. Complete \$1,000.

#### Outbuildings.

Barn—20x28, two stalls and hay bay; shingled and painted outside with Alabastine, \$150.

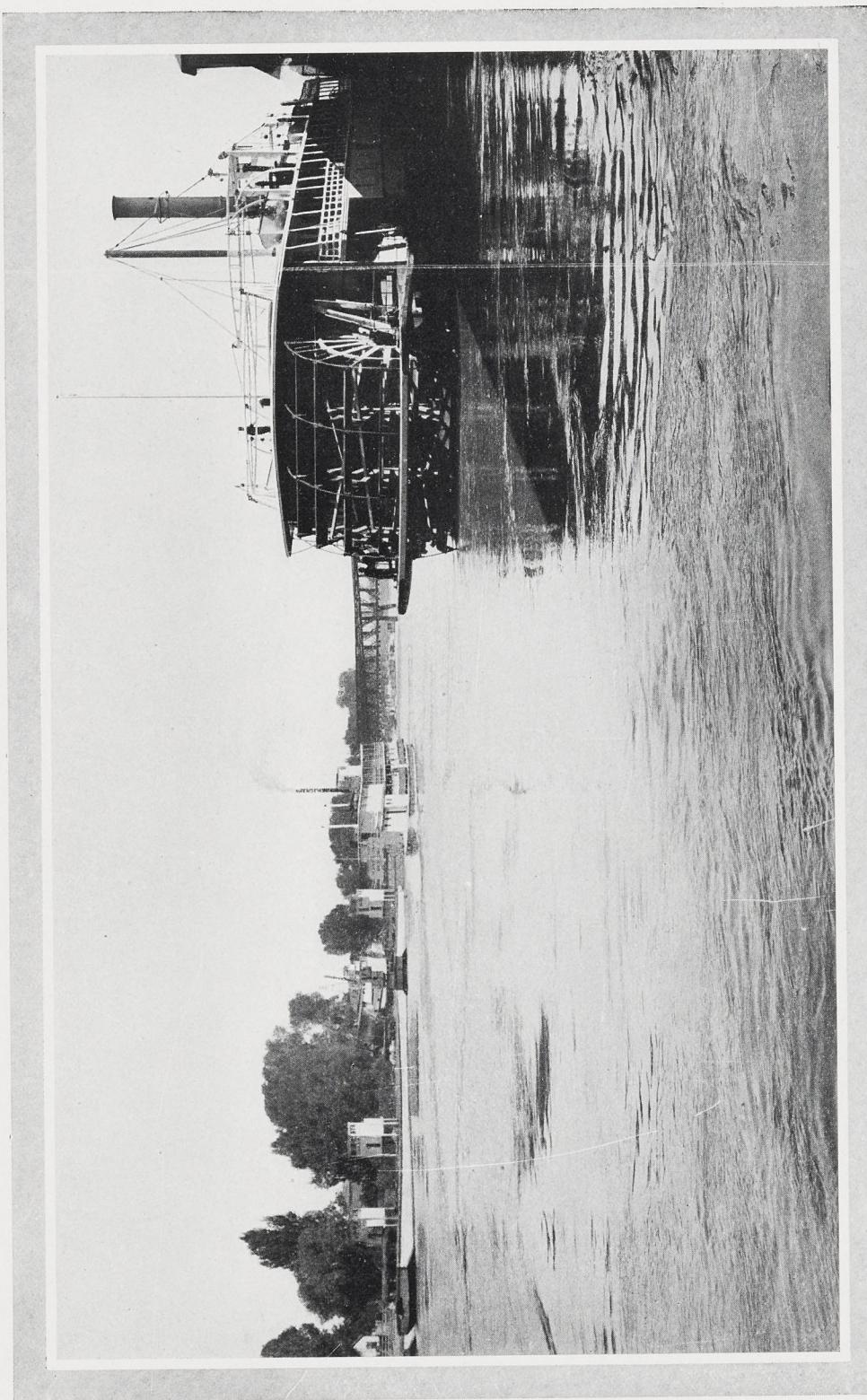
Barn—24x30; 16 ft. hay bay, three large stalls, granary attached, painted with Alabastine, \$225.

Barn and Carriage House—20x38, four large stalls, feed room, hay mow, carriage house, painted with Alabastine, \$300.

Chicken House—8x10, painted with Alabastine, \$35.

Chicken House—10x12, painted with Alabastine, \$50.

SACRAMENTO RIVER STANDS FOURTH IN TONNAGE IMPORTANCE OF ALL NAVIGABLE STREAMS IN THE U. S.



## Labor.

Ordinary farm laborers can be employed on a basis of an eight-hour day, \$2.00; ten-hour day, \$2.50; with board by the month at \$35.00. Carpenters are hired at \$3.00 and \$4.00 per day; masons from \$4.00 to \$5.00 per day. Work horses are hired at the rate of an eight-hour day, \$1.00; ten-hour day, \$1.25. When labor is contracted for, contractors use these figures, adding 10 per cent.

## Cost of Farm Utensils.

No effort has been made to give a complete catalogue of all the necessities on a ranch, but a few figures are submitted which will tend to show the relative prices between the cost of things in the East and California.

One 2-horse plow, 12-inch steel...	\$16.00	Wooden wheel farm truck.....	\$65.00
One one-horse plow, 8-inch steel...	10.00	Wheelbarrow .....	4.50
One 1-horse cultivator .....	5.00	Shovel .....	.75
One 2-section harrow .....	15.00	Hay fork .....	.90
Combination cultivator and seeder	12.00	Garden hoe .....	.50
General purpose farm wagon, for use on a small tract, low truck steel wheels (capacity 4,000 lbs.)	34.00	Garden rake .....	.50
General purpose road wagon, bed and brake (capacity 4,000 lbs.)	125.00	26-inch rabbit-proof fencing with two strands smooth twisted wire, per rod .....	.43
		Wire walk gates, 3 feet wide, 3 ft. high .....	3.50

## Freight Rates on Household Goods.

If you have a supply of goods such as household goods, implements, live stock, etc., sufficient to fill a car it would pay you to charter one and load it to the limit. You can put in your live stock, horses, etc., and send a man along to look after it, and you will be ready to go to work as soon as you arrive.

The freight rate on a car not to exceed 20,000 pounds, would be as follows:  
 From Chicago to Sacramento-----\$220.00  
 From St. Paul to Sacramento-----\$200.00  
 From Council Bluffs to Sacramento-----\$200.00

At intermediate points you can secure your rates from the railroad agent. Prepay your freight to Sacramento and take a receipt for same. By the time you have selected your piece of property your household goods and everything will be ready for you to commence work.

## Price of Lumber.

December 1, 1913.

Oregon Pine.	Per M Feet	Surf., and rough clear to 14 in., un- der 10 ft. ....	\$32.50
Rough, 2x3 to 4x12, 12 to 16 feet..	\$19.00	Rustic, assorted lengths, No. 1....	40.00
Rough, 2x3 to 4x12, 18 to 32 feet..	21.00	Rustic, assorted lengths, No. 2....	36.00
R'gh, 2x3, 2x4, 2x6, 9, 10, 18, 20 ft.	21.00	Dressed T.&G., 10 to 20 feet....	40.00
R'gh, 1, 1 1/4, 1 1/2, by 3 to 12 in. wd.	21.00	Dressed T.&G., under 10 feet....	32.50
Rough, 34 to 40 feet.....	23.00	Dressed T.&G. No. 2 and Sappy 10 to 20 ft. ....	27.50
Dressed, scantling, up to 4x4.....	35.00	Dressed T.&G. No. 2, and Sappy under 10 ft. ....	22.50
Dressed T.&G. flooring, 1x4 and 6, No. 1 .....	37.50	Pickets, rough .....	20.00
Dressed, T.&G. flooring, 1x4 and 6, No. 2 .....	30.00	Battens, 1/2x3, lineal foot.....	.00 34
Dr'sd stepping, No. 2 to 12 in. wide	50.00	Shingles, 4 bds., No. 1.....	2.50
Laths, 1 1/2 in., per M.....	3.00	Shakes, sawed, 6-inch, No. 1.....	17.50
Cedar shingles, No. 1, per M.....	2.50	Shakes, sawed, 6-inch, No. 2.....	12.00
Sheathing, S. 1 S. .....	16.00	Each	
 <b>Redwood</b>	 Per M Feet	Posts, 7-foot .....	\$ 0.20
Rough, not specified to 12 in. wide.	\$22.50	Posts, 7-foot, No. 2.....	.18
Rough, 1 in., 1 1/4 in., 1 1/2 in.x3 to 10 in. ....	23.50	Posts, 6 1/2-foot .....	.15
Rough, 1 in. to 4 in.x12, and 14- 4x6, 6x6 .....	27.00	Building brick .....	8.00
Surf., and rough clear to 14 in., 10 to 20 ft. .....	40.00	Cement .....	per bbl. 2.75
		(4 sacks equal a barrel and 10c each rebate is refunded when sacks are re- turned).	



ATTRACTIVE SCENES WITHIN SACRAMENTO'S CONFINES.

## Cost of Living.

Generally this will not exceed the cost of living in Eastern sections save in a few items. California does not produce all it consumes, or manufacture all that it uses; the cost of freight being added to bacon, furniture, dry goods and clothing. Here is a list of necessities for the table and the average prices, subject to usual market changes:

### Sacramento Retail Prices.

## Irrigation.

Many of the farmers of Sacramento County, even those who own bottom lands, have found by experience that it pays them to irrigate. There are two methods of irrigation followed in this county—the canal system and the ditch system. The rolling lands are for the most part irrigated by the canal system. The water is taken from streams high up in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and piped to the farms. The cost of irrigation by this method is about \$4 an acre a year.

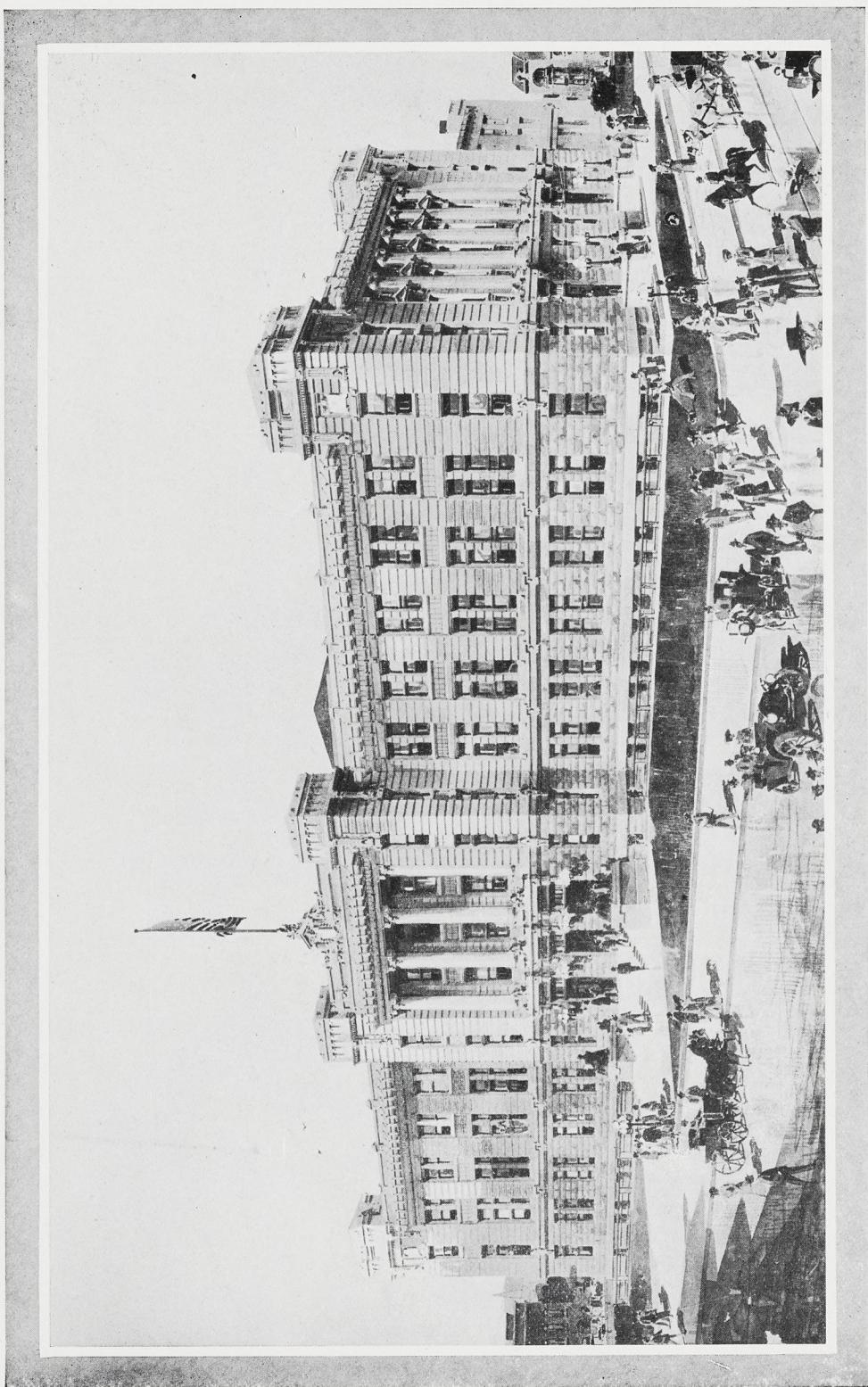
On the level lands of the county the irrigation is done by means of deep wells. On the bottom lands the water is pumped from the river. The cost of a pumping plant on upland varies from \$250 to \$300, according to the quality of the machinery installed. Water from this source is unfailing, there being a subterranean supply that is inexhaustible underlying the entire county of Sacramento. The Summer of 1913 was one of the driest ever experienced in the Sacramento Valley, yet none of the wells in Sacramento County showed any signs of going dry. The farmers who depended upon wells for their water had bountiful crops.

The average depth of the wells in Sacramento County is about 130 feet. Water rises to within eight feet of the surface of the ground. The pump is placed in a pit that is sunk down close to the water level. The pits are usually concreted or walled with redwood planks. A well four or five inches in diameter and a two-inch centrifugal pump, driven either by electricity or by a gasoline engine, will provide sufficient water for ten acres. A twelve-inch well and a six-inch pump will irrigate 160 acres.

### **Cost of Stock.**

Prices of thoroughbred cattle, hogs and chickens are about the same in the Sacramento Valley as they are in the East and the Middle West, with the freight added.

Fuel is very cheap in the Sacramento Valley. The most economical and satisfactory fuel is crude oil, which is in general use. The present price of oil is \$1.00 per barrel. Oak stove wood is quoted at \$8 and \$10 per cord. In Sac-



SACRAMENTO COUNTY COURT HOUSE RECENTLY COMPLETED AT A COST OF \$750,000.

ramento gas is used largely for fuel at a price of \$1 per thousand feet. For power on the farm and for lighting, electricity is in general use. The price ranges from eight to four cents per kilowatt, according to amount in use. Coal is used to some extent for fuel and at the present writing the price of Rock Spring coal is \$13 a ton.

### Harvest Time.

The following table shows the time at which some of the various fruits, vegetables, and garden products are harvested:

Almonds.....	August to September	Raspberries.....	June to October
Apples.....	July to November	Strawberries.....	All the year
Apricots.....	June to August	Watermelons.....	July to October
Blackberries.....	June to September		
Cantaloupes.....	May to October		
Cherries.....	May to July		
Currants.....	May to June		
Figs.....	July to November		
Grapes.....	July to January		
Grape Fruit.....	All the year		
Lemons.....	All the year		
Loganberries.....	June to September		
Olives.....	October to January		
Oranges.....	October to January		
Pears.....	July to November		
Peaches.....	July to Christmas		
Plums.....	June to September		
Prunes.....	June to September		

Vegetables.			
Asparagus.....		March to July	
Beans.....		May to October	
Cabbage.....		All the year	
Cauliflower.....		October to June	
Celery.....		October to June	
Corn.....		May to October	
Cucumbers.....		April to November	
Lettuce.....		All the year	
Melons.....		May to October	
Onions.....		All the year	
Peas.....		All the year	
Potatoes....	2 crops plant Aug. and Feb.		
Radishes.....		All the year	

### Table of Productiveness.

A table of productiveness of various articles that can be raised on one acre of ground.

Alfalfa .....	\$ 35 to \$ 60	Olives .....	\$100 to \$500
Almonds .....	75 to 200	Oranges .....	150 to 800
Apples .....	100 to 200	Peaches .....	100 to 250
Apricots .....	75 to 150	Potatoes (Sweet).....	50 to 150
Asparagus .....	100 to 250	Potatoes (Irish).....	50 to 150
Berries .....	150 to 500	Prunes .....	75 to 200
Blackberries .....	250 to 500	Pears .....	100 to 400
Beans .....	30 to 100	Pomelos .....	100 to 400
Cherries .....	100 to 225	Plums .....	100 to 200
Figs .....	100 to 250	Quinces .....	100 to 200
Loganberries .....	250 to 300	Raisin Grapes .....	75 to 150
Lemons .....	100 to 400	Strawberries .....	150 to 300
Melons .....	25 to 125	Table Grapes .....	100 to 500
Nectarines .....	100 to 200	Tomatoes .....	50 to 150
		Walnuts .....	200 to 800

### No Closed Season.

Prof. J. E. Wickson, Director of Experimental Station and Dean of California College of Agriculture of the University of California, in speaking of vegetable growing, said: "There is really no closed season in the State except in the mountain districts; the conclusion of the whole matter is that California in its various parts is fitted for almost endless sowing and gathering, though there are best times at which to do things for specific purposes."

All the benefits of the installation of a garden on the farm can be realized in Sacramento County, in an exceptional measure, the whole area of Sacramento County being a vast garden. It permits of succession and rotation within the year so that twelve months is the producing equivalent of twice or three times that duration in wintry climates.

The small farm requires genius, devotion and a spirit of content. Its varied nature is in itself a charm. The trees, vines, plants, all rise to the plane of companionship. The garden is an element of success in mixed farming.



AN AFTERNOON'S CATCH OF BLACK BASS IN THE SACRAMENTO RIVER.

## WEALTH OF FISH AND GAME

*Plenty to Interest the Sportsman  
in Sacramento County*

By Game Warden George Neale.



If it is ever written in natural history that California was once populated with wild water fowl, and that they were exterminated, it will also be written that they made their last stand in the Sacramento Valley. The Valley is the winter home of not only the migratory water fowl, ducks, geese, etc., but also of the large number of ducks indigenous to this portion of California. They are not in the true sense migratory, as many thousands of them, mostly sprig and mallard, go and come only when weather conditions are stormy.

In the territory adjacent to and north of Sacramento County and especially along the Butte Slough country, there is a large area still in the primeval state of swamp, where many thousands of wild ducks make their nests. Sprig, mallard and cinnamon teal make this their feeding and nesting ground, but the teal migrates south as soon as they are sufficiently strong for the journey. Consequently California obtains very little of this particular teal shooting.

Many of our local ducks nest in the higher lakes of Modoc, Plumas, Lassen, Trinity, Siskiyou and Sierra Counties. These birds furnish the first or early shooting for the lower valleys before the strictly migratory ducks are driven from the far north by the first good freeze-up that cuts off their food supply. Upon reaching the Sacramento Valley proper, which is in the migratory path, these ducks and large bands of geese find abundant food in the overflow or marsh lands adjacent to the Sacramento River. The varieties



FULL GROWN BUCK SHOT IN THE FOOTHILLS OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY.

which nest in California are the mallard, sprig, cinnamon teal, a few green wing teal, some gray ducks or gadwall, wood duck, and a few other varieties. The breeding grounds of the far north furnish the balance of the duck tribe, such as canvasback, redhead, blue bill and blackjack. These birds, together with a number of those enumerated above, furnish hunters of Sacramento County excellent sport for three and a half months each Winter.

There are only about two, or possibly three, other kinds of ducks in North America that do not come to California. They are the black duck, the Florida duck, the black bellied duck and, possibly, the fulvous duck, although occasionally a few of these birds are seen in the extreme southern part of the State. Over twenty varieties of ducks, the Canada and gray geese, three of the brant family, although it is claimed by some keen observers that there are four, the white or snow geese, swan, pelican, crane and approximately all shore birds known to practical science visit us. Space forbids giving the technical names of the waterfowl peculiar and migratory to California. Taking it all in all, California has a wonderful wealth of water fowl, and the Sacramento Valley is most favored of all.

The king of all game birds, the California valley quail, can be found in nearly every patch of brush or hedge fence in the vicinity of and around Sacramento. This bird thrives up to an elevation of three thousand feet.

The lower foothills furnish an abundance of rabbits of all kinds, such as bush rabbits, cottontail or hare and jackrabbit; also many deer, one large buck being killed recently only five miles from Sacramento City. If a sportsman, be he hunter or fisherman, cannot enjoy himself in the confines of Sacramento County, he is indeed hard to please. There is no other State in the nation which is so generous to its people in permitting them to take such a variety and quantity of its fish and game as California.

When speaking or writing of fish and game conditions applicable to Sacramento County, it would be unfair for the county to claim the credit for the



SACRAMENTO COUNTY IS THE HOME OF THE MALLARD AND CANVASBACK.

endowment by nature of the abundant supply of natural food fishes. The grand old Sacramento River is 326 miles in length and flows through eleven counties. Eighty miles of it runs through Sacramento County and, possibly, no other stream anywhere furnishes such a large variety of food fishes as does this river. In the upper stretches where the water is clear, and far away from the hustle of the steamers hauling products from the rich, alluvial soil, salmon, trout and striped bass abound, and may be taken with live bait or artificial lure; while at the very gates of the city, salmon, striped bass and shad are caught by the commercial fishermen in large quantities. Hundreds of residents and visitors may be found at their leisure along the banks of this stream. Striped and black bass, Sacramento perch, blue gill, crappie, yellow or ring perch, two kinds of catfish, besides about twenty other varieties and all good edible fish may be taken by the angler.

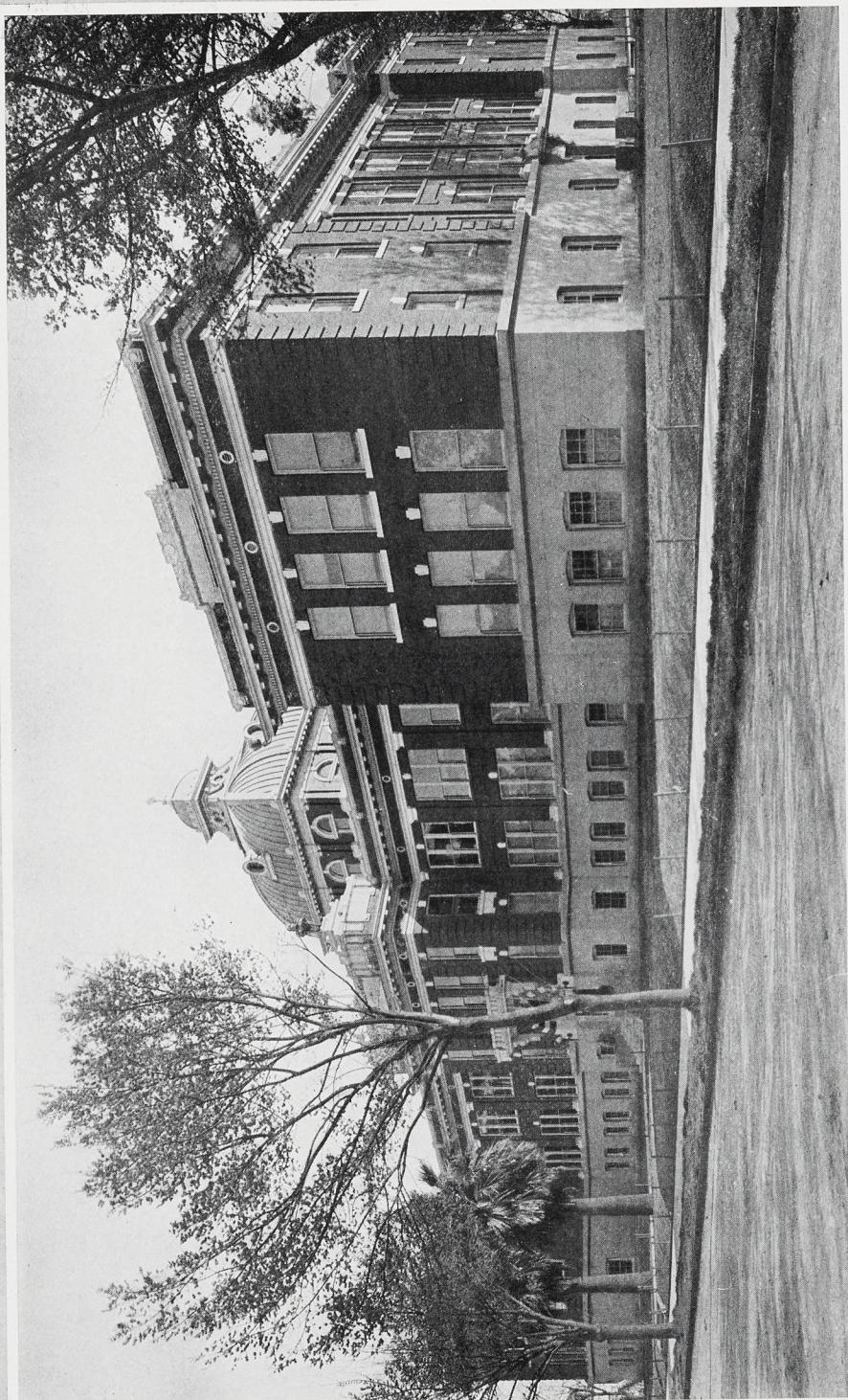
The Spring run of salmon, shad and bass is sometimes of enormous proportions, and supplies the Coast and Eastern markets of Chicago and New York and other cities. Large quantities of shad roe are now sent to Eastern points, the fish being so numerous in our river that it is impossible to consume them. After taking the roe, the fish are destroyed, as there is no market for them. Live business men are now seeking a market for these fish, put up in a mild, cured form, as is salmon or Finan haddie. The Sacramento and San Joaquin shad are commended as being superior to the Eastern or Delaware product.

The commercial fishing industry of the Sacramento River is of steady and increasing growth. The number of commercial fishing licenses sold in Sacramento County increased from 282 for the twelve months of 1912, to 366 for the eight months in 1913. In the Fall of 1913 there were about 750 licensed commercial fishermen operating on the Sacramento River. To meet this increased demand, the output of the State salmon and trout hatcheries must be increased proportionately. With the latter object in view, the Legislature of 1913 passed a rod and reel or sporting fishing license law, requiring a license of one dollar to take salmon, steelhead and other trout, bass and a few large sea fishes, thus hoping to secure sufficient money to meet the great demand made upon these hatcheries. There are a great many varieties of fish which spawn naturally, and may be caught without the necessity of procuring a license. They are catfish, carp, pike, crappie, blue gill and about a dozen other kinds. These fish cost nothing except the service of wardens for protection. With the influx of people coming to California, and the great demands which will be made upon the fish life in the future, it is thought necessary to increase the output of the hatcheries fully 50 per cent to meet these requirements.

The lures most successfully used for taking these fish are: For striped and black bass, salmon and trout in clear water, a Wilson or other spoon or spinner of the same character, size 1 to 4. For the lower stretches of the river and below the mouth of the Feather River, minnows for both kinds of bass, clams or shrimps for striped bass and angle worms or small live minnows for crappie, blue gill or yellow perch. The large, wooden minnow spinner is an excellent killer in these waters for black bass.

The headquarters of the California Fish and Game Commission are located in Sacramento City. The Commission is an active one and is constantly working in the public interest. The game and fish laws are strictly enforced by a large and efficient force of game wardens. As a result of the excellent work done in recent years by the Commission, game is very plentiful in California. A hunting license costing one dollar a year is required by all citizens of the State who care to hunt. Citizens of the United States who are non-residents of California are charged \$10 for a hunting license, while the charge is \$25 for foreigners. During 1913 the number of licenses issued totaled 160,000. The money collected is used for game protection and fish propagation.

BEAUTIFUL, MODERN HIGH SCHOOL IN THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO.



# EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Schools of Sacramento County  
Rated Among the Best

By Mrs. Minnie R. O'Neill, County Superintendent of Schools.

HE school system of Sacramento County is equal to that of any political subdivision of equal size in the United States. During the past few years great progress has been made in educational facilities, particularly in the rural districts, so that it is now possible for a child residing even in the remotest part of the county to receive an advanced high school education, fitting him for entrance upon graduation to the University of California, where he may pursue the higher branches of learning, should he desire.

The taxpayers of the county regard the school system as an important influence for the development of good citizens and they are liberal in their expenditures. The new schools that have been erected in recent years are modern in every respect. They are for the most part, of the Mission architectural design, which is typical of California. The equipment of the schools is of the best and the playgrounds and gardens surrounding the buildings are beautiful and attractive.

The county has district schools where the elementary branches of learning are taught and four rural union high schools, where the students pursue advanced courses. Of these union high schools the one at Elk Grove, seventeen miles south of Sacramento, is the oldest. It was organized about twelve years ago by a union of the school districts in the vicinity and has made much progress. Besides teaching the regulation academic and commercial courses, it instructs the students in practical farming. Courses in dairying, stock-raising, fruit culture, etc., are given.

The Galt Joint Union High School District was organized in 1912 by a union of the adjacent school districts. It likewise is situated in a rapidly developing farming community and its course of study will include instruction in horticulture and agriculture. The new high school building is situated in the town of Galt on a twelve-acre site.

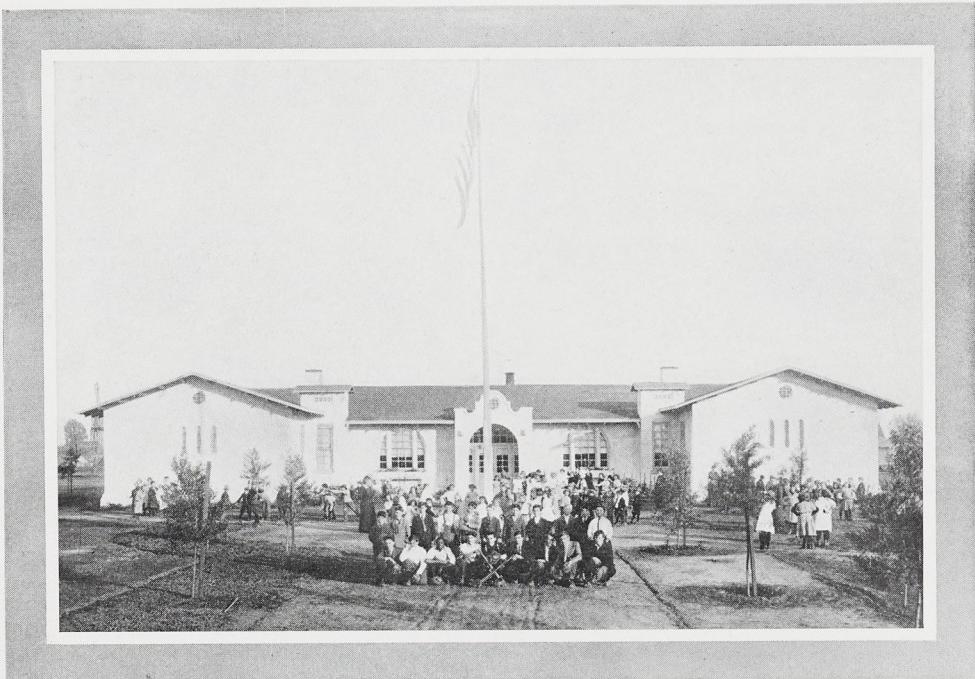
The Rio Vista Union High School comprises several districts in Sacramento and Solano County. The school is located at Rio Vista in Solano County. It was organized in 1912 and is making rapid progress.

The San Juan Union High School District was formed in 1913 and is composed of districts adjacent to Fair Oaks. While yet in temporary quarters in the Fair Oaks Grammar School the work is well organized, the school away to the foothills on another. It abounds in natural beauty and is rich in olive, lemon and orange groves, vineyards and orchards, thickly interwoven and attended and teachers, pupils and patrons enthusiastic. This district borders the rugged banks of the American River on one side and stretches spersed with thrifty, cozy and oftentimes beautiful homes.

Too much cannot be said in favor of the rural high school. That money formerly spent by the prosperous in sending their children away from home for high school advantages now helps to maintain a high school at home to which ALL the children of the community have access and is a decided advantage; but greater than this is the fact that young people may remain under the protection and influence of parents and be at home at the time most needed.

## Sacramento City Schools.

Sacramento City School District and the Sacramento City High School District, are growing rapidly. The Sacramento School Department numbers



NEW RURAL SCHOOL BUILDING IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY.

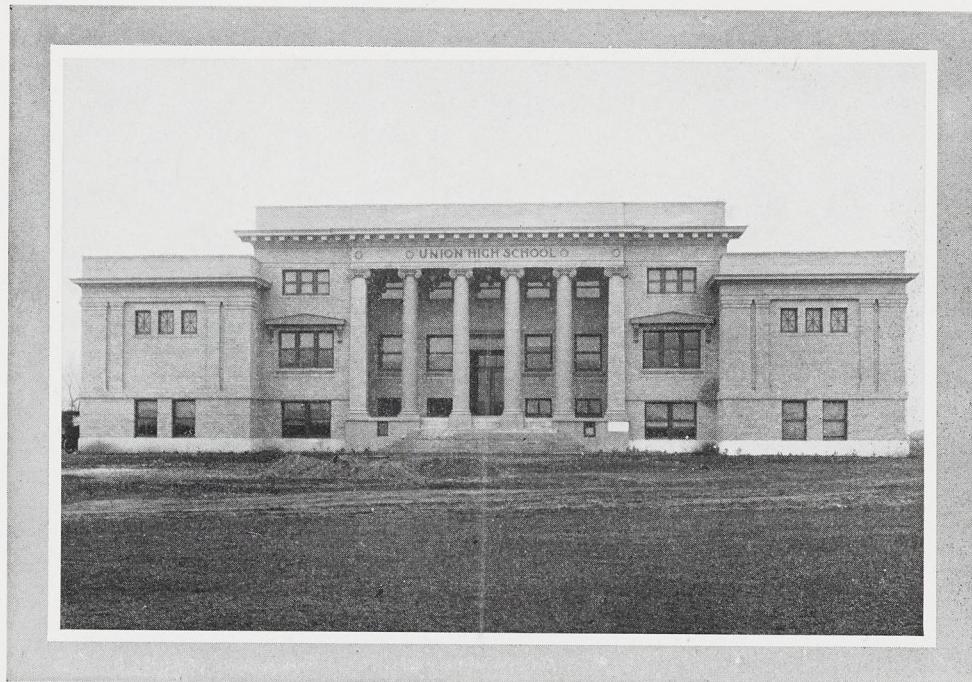
over three hundred teachers divided as follows: two hundred thirty-eight in the elementary and kindergarten schools; thirty-seven in the high school; fourteen in the night elementary and high schools, and eighteen special teachers instructing in drawing, music, domestic science, manual training, agriculture and physical development. The system is regarded by experts in educational matters as thoroughly efficient.

When the vocational high school building now in course of erection is completed there will be a large increase in the number of special teachers as many lines of vocational work will then be added to the curriculum for the night as well as the day school. Mothers and housewives as well as young women otherwise employed during the day, and young men following different avocations will be given an opportunity for instruction in accordance with their needs. This school in its encouragement of industry, thrift and skill will result in the production of much good.

While the amount of work done in special lines in the rural schools is somewhat limited since there are no special teachers, it is surprising how much is accomplished by the energetic, wide-awake teacher, who, like the apostle of California, allows no obstacles to discourage or daunt. To encourage the children and inculcate right ideas as to the dignity of labor, the County Board of Education allows credit for all industrial and agricultural work, whether done at home or in school.

One great source of benefit that has been opened to the city and the county children alike for the last few years is the county library. Sacramento City School District and many of the rural districts have joined and are more than gratified with results. Our county librarian, an expert on books, knows that much in the cause of education will be accomplished if our young people have ready access to the best literature and are helped to cultivate a taste therefor.

Another help is an excellent teachers' library, where members of the pro-



JOINT UNION RURAL HIGH SCHOOL, SACRAMENTO COUNTY.

fession can get the best and latest books in educational lines, having them sent and returned free of cost.

Much is done for the boy and girl through their school work arousing an appreciation of good literature, good music and good pictures; through inspiring a love of nature and a desire for a life of service. Through all the work it is the aim that life itself should be the educator; life as depicted in the noble deeds and kindly thoughts that quicken the pages of history and literature; life as exemplified in the men and women of to-day who are doing things worth while—things that mean service in many lines—all for the betterment of humanity. Thus is the child led to high thoughts and right ideals; to honesty, loyalty, industry, thrift, purity and reverence; to respect for family ties and high regard for the sanctity of the home; and thus is begot character, the aim of all school work.

Not through the work of the school would we have the young people believe that they are trained mainly for the professions, the commercial mart or the industries; but rather for the honor and refinement of the American home and for an intelligent loyal American citizenship.

It is well for the future of Sacramento County that many of her best citizens are mindful that the latent capability of our youth is the nation's greatest resource, and that its right development means not only the uplift of the community but the nation's strength as well. Citizens such as these are determined that nothing shall be left undone to make of the school a civic center of righteousness, intelligence, thrift and skill.

The office of the County Superintendent of Schools and the County Board of Education, through which channels many of the educational affairs of the county and city are directed, are on the upper floor of the new county court house. They are commodious and convenient and when furnished as planned will leave nothing to be desired. In connection with these offices is a branch teachers' library, which is to be in charge of the county librarian.

ALMOND ORCHARD IN BLOOM WHICH PROMISES TREMENDOUS CROP.



# WOMEN IN HORTICULTURE

*The Soil Industries of Sacramento  
County Appeal to Gentler Sex*

 HERE are many women in Sacramento County who are successful farmers. Some women have proved themselves fully as efficient as men in the intelligent management and direction of farm property. Mrs. O. W. Ruggles, of Fair Oaks Colony, is one of the successful Sacramento County women farmers. When the term farmer is applied to Mrs. Ruggles, it does not mean that she follows a plow, or that she runs a mower or does many of the farm duties that are recognized as the exclusive work of the sterner sex. But she is the directing head of the farm and the success of the place is due to her good management and excellent judgment. That Mrs. Ruggles understands her business makes itself apparent when a visit is made to her place. Everything about her farm is in first-class order and it is a model of cultivation and production.

Mrs. Ruggles has been a farmer only three years. She was formerly a resident of Chicago. The rigors of the Winters in the great city of Chicago impaired her health and she came to California to enjoy a milder climate. Since she has been here, her health has been the very best and she is to-day a strong and vigorous woman.

Mrs. Ruggles had owned her California farm several years before she located permanently upon it. She purchased the land about fifteen years ago while on a Winter trip to the Pacific Coast for her health. It was planted under her direction and she paid a visit to it about once a year. She was successful as an absentee farmer, but has made the place very much more profitable since she has been on it herself and has given it her undivided attention.

Mrs. Ruggles is a middle-aged woman and is the mother of several grown children. She is well educated and can talk Browning or Shakespeare with the same facility with which she discusses olives or oranges. She is exceedingly energetic and when she starts out to accomplish anything, she does not stop until she succeeds. That is one of the secrets of her success. She transmits energy to all around her and for that reason gets wonderful results from her help.

“Rohrea” is the euphonious name of Mrs. Ruggles’ place. Everybody who hears the name wonders what it means and from whence it is derived. It is a new word to the language and was ingeniously coined by the Ruggles family. The name is formed by a combination of the initial letters of each member of the Ruggles household and the inquirer is told that it means “the whole darned family.”

Rohrea contains seventy acres. Fifty acres of this is a magnificent grove of olives and oranges. The remaining twenty acres is unimproved, but is planted to grain each year. Eventually it will be planted either to oranges or olives, or both, as it is an excellent piece of ground well situated.

The orange and olive trees at Rohrea are about eleven years old. A large crop is harvested each year. The oranges are the choicest navel variety, while the olives are both pickling and oil varieties.

No description of Rohrea would be complete without a few words about Mrs. Ruggles’ home. This is a typical California bungalow of artistic design. It has been built on the summit of a knoll, overlooking the entire country. The view from the home site is unsurpassed anywhere in California. On the rolling hillslopes on every side are orange and olive groves. In the distance to the east are plainly in view the snow-capped peaks of the Sierra Nevada



BEAUTIFUL FAIR OAKS HOME SET IN THE HEART OF AN ORANGE GROVE.

Mountains. Far away in the west across the fertile fields of the Sacramento Valley can be traced on the blue horizon the faint outlines of the Coast Range Mountains. Garden and orchard land showing luxuriant growth hold the vision as far as eye can see both to the north and to the south.

The knoll on which Mrs. Ruggles' home is built is carpeted with green clover, which makes a pretty lawn the entire year round.

"I am in love with my California home," said Mrs. Ruggles when the writer visited her place. It was a beautiful September day and Mrs. Ruggles was enjoying the pure air of the country in her front yard. "We hear a great deal about the beauties of Switzerland," she continued, "but they haven't anything there to compare with California. I challenge anyone to find a more beautiful view in the Alps than I have right here from my own doorstep. On every clear day, and almost every day in California is a clear day, I can sit on my front porch and, looking across orange groves, see the beautiful snowy crests of the Sierra Nevada Mountains."

"I never enjoyed life so much as I have since I have been on this farm. I purchased the place fifteen years ago, when the colony was first opened. It was then unplanted. It was attracted to it because it is situated amid such picturesque surroundings. It was planted to oranges and olives by the company from which I purchased it, and after the trees were mature, they were farmed for me by hired help. I made it a practice to visit it once a year. I always got satisfactory returns but since I have been on the place myself and have been doing the directing, the profits have been much greater. I do not find farming difficult. It requires a little energy intelligently applied. I have no difficulty with my help. I only keep two in help the year round for the entire 70 acres. During the harvest season, of course, I have to employ extra help."

"My clover patch in front of the house and my flower garden are the result of this year's effort. It is possible to accomplish a great deal in the gar-



COMFORTABLE BUNGALOW HOMES, IN BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONS OF SACRAMENTO.

den in California because we have a twelve months' growing season every year."

Mrs. Ruggles is the wife of O. W. Ruggles, a railroad man well known in Chicago. Mr. Ruggles has been connected with the New York Central lines for many years, being located formerly in the Chicago office. Because of breaking health, he asked to be removed to California three years ago, and was given charge of the New York Central branch in California's Capital City, where he is now engaged. Mr. Ruggles, however, has nothing to do with his wife's farm. He visits it only once a week—on Sundays—the rest of his time being taken up by his work at the office.

Fair Oaks Colony in which Mrs. Ruggles' place is located lies in a picturesque part of Sacramento County, fourteen miles from Sacramento City. The Colony has been remarkably successful and the land owners there are prosperous and contented.

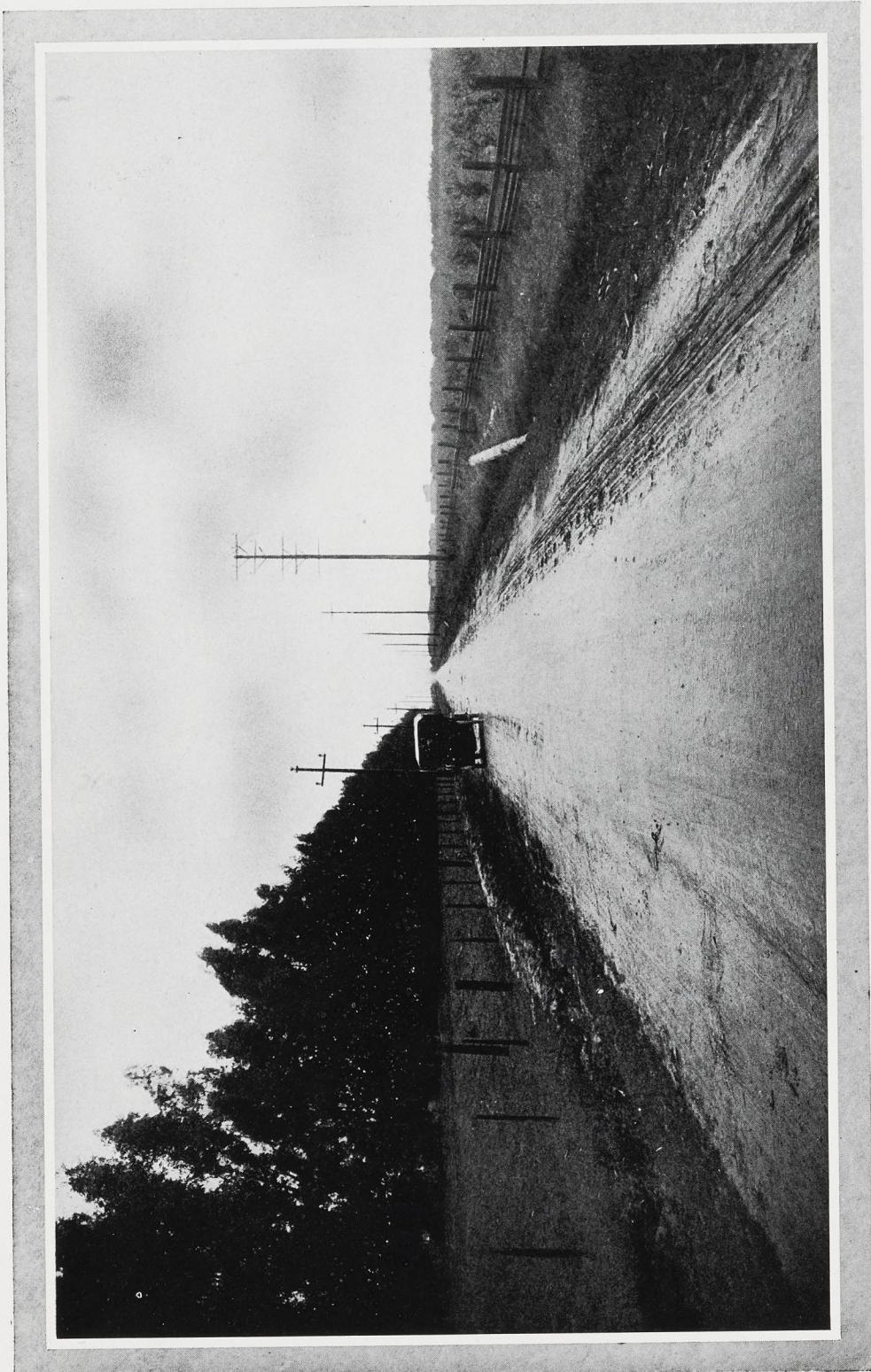
The principal products are oranges, olives and almonds, although many other fruits are grown. The Colony was started fifteen years ago and hence, many of the orange and olive groves are now mature and are paying big dividends yearly.

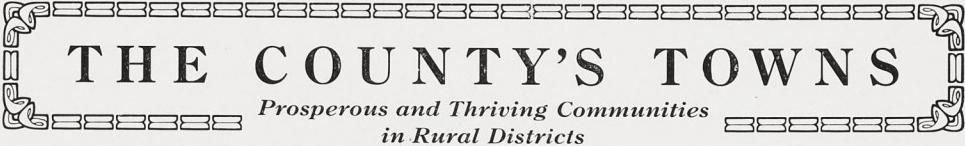
During the season of 1913 growers were paid as high as \$40 a ton for fancy navel oranges and \$200 per ton for pickling olives. A mature orange grove that is well cultivated and properly irrigated will yield about ten tons of oranges to the acre annually. The production of olives on trees that are from ten to fifteen years old ranges from two to six tons to the acre.

The residents of Fair Oaks Colony have formed a co-operative fruit shipping association, through which they market all of their products. The association handles the crops very economically and brings the growers the highest returns.

Members of the association prefer to ship this way than to market their crops individually.

FOLSOM BOULEVARD, ONE OF THE BEST IN AMERICA.





# THE COUNTY'S TOWNS

*Prosperous and Thriving Communities  
in Rural Districts*

**S**ACRAMENTO COUNTY has several thriving and progressive towns of which it is justly proud. Among the most picturesque of these is Fair Oaks, situated in the rolling foothills north of the American River about fourteen miles from Sacramento City. It is the center of a rich orange and olive producing section. It has a fruit packing house, a bank, an oil mill, several stores and good schools. On the knolls surrounding the town are many beautiful homes of owners of the profitable orange and olive groves.

A short distance to the east of Fair Oaks Colony, also situated in rolling hills of orange and olive groves, vineyards and orchards, is Orangevale, where there are many beautiful homes, also a packing house.

Across the American River from Orangevale is Folsom, one of the oldest towns in the county. It was a mining center of much importance in early days and dredge mining is still followed profitably in the vicinity. Folsom is the supply point for a rich surrounding territory and contains a number of prosperous business houses. It has a bank, a good school and a number of pretty homes. It is connected with Sacramento by the Southern Pacific railroad and also by several lines of automobile stages. The Folsom Boulevard, twenty-two miles in length, from Sacramento to Folsom, is one of the famous driveways of the State. It passes through a rich garden section.

Between Sacramento and Folsom there are several growing towns, chief among which is Dredge, where is located a great rock crushing plant, which manufactures hundreds of tons of macadam for building construction, road work, etc. A similar plant is also located at Fair Oaks bridge, across the American River from Fair Oaks Colony. Other towns are Brighton, Perkins, Mills, Mayhews and Natoma, all of which are important shipping points during the deciduous fruit season.

South of Sacramento on the line of the Southern Pacific are Florin, Elk Grove and Galt. Florin is the center of the grape growing and strawberry producing district and is a prosperous town, six miles south of Sacramento.

Elk Grove is thirteen miles south of Sacramento in a community that is growing rapidly. It has a bank, good schools, winery and other industries. The United States Government has established a viticultural station at Elk Grove for experimental work in grape growing.

Galt is twenty-seven miles south of Sacramento and is a thriving town with good schools, churches, business houses, etc. It supports a bank and a weekly newspaper. Farm land in the vicinity is rapidly being developed.

Freeport, Courtland, Vorden, Walnut Grove, Ryde, Isleton and Emman-ton are all towns of importance along the Sacramento River. They are all active shipping points for fruits and garden products.

During the past three years several new towns have sprung up along the line of the Central California Traction Company, which operates an interurban railroad between Sacramento and Stockton. Among these are Wilton and Herald, both surrounded by thousands of acres of rich farming country.

North of Sacramento on the Southern Pacific Railroad, is Antelope, noted for its almond production.

North Sacramento is a rapidly growing suburb of Sacramento City, just north of the city on the Northern Electric line. Eight miles from Sacramento on the same railway, a new town, called Rio Linda, is rapidly springing into prominence.

## A WORD TO THE READER

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There is no better opportunity to achieve success and commercial independence than is afforded to the agriculturalist and manufacturer in Sacramento County of California. Intelligence, energy and some capital are the prerequisites to success here. Living conditions are ideal and there is absolute assurance of health and happiness where industry and perseverance are evidenced.

The people of Sacramento County are prosperous and the community spirit abides for the broadening and bettering of our social and industrial life. The citizens of Sacramento County desire greater population in order that the rich resources of this productive section may be more rapidly developed for the common welfare. Realizing that increase in population does not necessarily mean prosperity to a desirable living place, it is only that class of men and women who are ambitious, intelligent, patriotic and capable of helping themselves that the people of Sacramento County intend that this book shall interest.

The hand of helpfulness and fellowship is extended to those who are seeking a place to build homes where the greatest measure of success attends the expenditure of well directed energy. Every day of the year is one of comfort and happiness in this land of perpetual sunshine and flowers for mortals who find happiness in industry and beauty in the glories of Nature as they abide in this Garden of the West.

It is sincerely hoped that this book will interest those who are ambitious to better their condition in life and are ready to join with the prosperous people of Sacramento County in the broadening and building of a greater commonwealth. Write to the Board of Supervisors of Sacramento County, the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce or the Sacramento Valley Development Association. All communications will receive prompt attention.

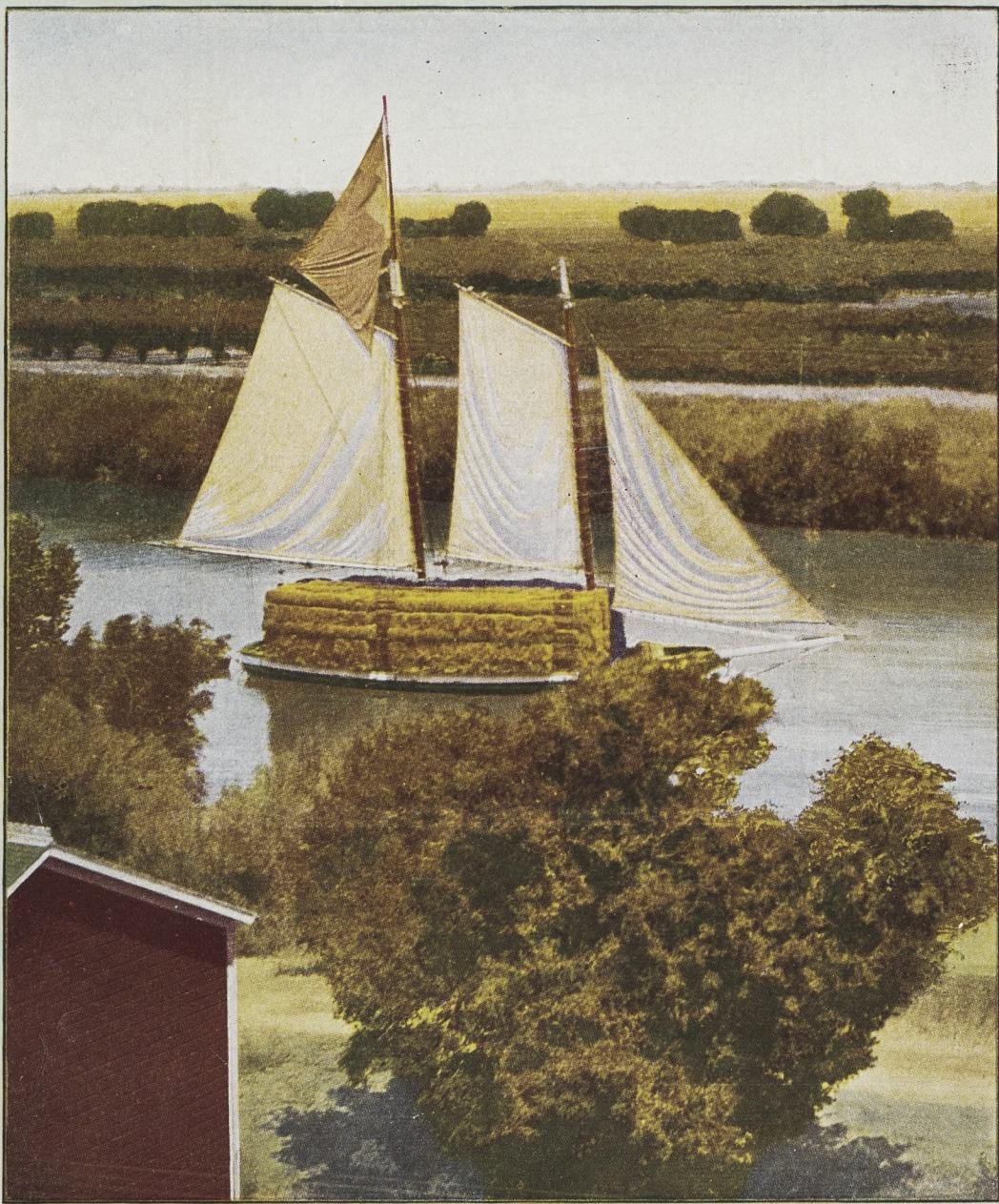
**Board of Supervisors**  
*Sacramento County, California*

## IMPORTANT

**W**HEN contemplating a visit to California request the railroad agent from whom you purchase your ticket to route you through Sacramento, which is the Capital of the State, and is situated in the heart of California.

It will cost you nothing extra to be routed by way of Sacramento and it will afford you an opportunity to see an area of garden lowland farms, deciduous fruit orchards, orange groves, vineyards and rural development that will give a lasting impression of the advantages of living in California. Here may be viewed the interesting process of gold mining within ten miles of the City of Sacramento and the operation of the largest rock crushing plant in the world.

# SACRAMENTO COUNTY CALIFORNIA



SACRAMENTO RIVER, A COMMERCIAL WATERWAY